

Arthur Giall
I.R. NEWSPAPER RELY
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THE
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT, AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXVIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 1130.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 1867.

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THE IRISH CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT.

At a Meeting of the Executive Committee of the SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE-PATRONAGE and CONTROL, held July 5th, 1867, it was

RESOLVED—

I. That the debate in the House of Lords on the 24th of June, on Earl Russell's motion for a Commission of Enquiry into the nature and amount of the property and revenues of the Established Church in Ireland, and the assent of Her Majesty's Government to the appointment of such a Commission, with other circumstances of recent occurrence, indicate the near approach of the period when Parliament will feel itself compelled to deal with the grievance inflicted on Ireland by the maintenance of a Protestant Establishment in the midst of a Roman Catholic population.

II. That the opinions expressed in such debate, as well as on other occasions, by influential statesmen, further indicate a wish on their part to attempt to mitigate that grievance by modifying the internal arrangements of the Establishment, and, more especially, by appropriating a portion of its property to the endowment of the Roman Catholic clergy and of other religious bodies in Ireland.

III. That, in the judgment of this Committee, the policy involving this and kindred projects is unequalled for, inadequate, and mischievous:—

1. *Uncalled for*—because it has been declared by leading prelates and laymen of the Roman Catholic Church that its clergy desire no such endowment.

2. *Inadequate*—because, while unadapted to the wants and feelings of the Irish people, it would fail to destroy the root of the existing evil, viz., the political predominance of the Church of a small minority of the population.

3. *Mischievous*—because it would create a precedent for appropriating public property to ecclesiastical uses without subjecting the expenditure to the control of the State; because it would have a tendency to intensify existing sectarian bitterness; and because it would involve such a national recognition of conflicting religious tenets as would be injurious to the morale, and to the religion, of the country.

IV. That the Committee regard the suggested policy with the greater repugnance because its adoption is urged, not so much in the interest of the people of Ireland as in that of the English Establishment, the existence of which, it is alleged, would be impeded by the abolition of the Establishment in the sister country; and, further, because of the growth of a conviction in the public mind, that the evils arising from State-interference with religion require the abandonment, rather than the extension, of the existing system.

V. That, for these reasons, the Committee deem it to be of vital importance that there should be no delay in the adoption of measures which may so influence public opinion, and especially the action of the constituencies at the next General Election as to ensure the defeat of any such design, and to hasten the adoption of the only effectual substitute—the disestablishment of the Church of England in Ireland; the impartial disendowment of all religious bodies in that country, and the application of the ecclesiastical property of the nation to national and unsectarian purposes.

WILLIAM EDWARDS, Chairman.
J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.

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THE FIFTH GENERAL CONFERENCE of CHRISTIANS of ALL NATIONS will be held in AMSTERDAM, from AUGUST 18 to 28.

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GENTLEMEN,

We beg leave to place before you the name of Sir JOHN LUBBOCK, Bart., F.R.S., as that of a gentleman eminently fitted to represent the University of London in Parliament.

The University of London is publicly recognised as embodying certain distinct principles, and it is obviously our duty to choose as our representative a man whose known opinions are a guarantee that he will uphold those principles, and who possesses the requisite ability and influence to aid materially in their advancement.

The main function of our University being to promote the spread of education, especially of liberal and scientific education, apart from all consideration of religious questions and other restricting influences, its political action must, as a necessary consequence, be particularly directed to the removal of all civil disabilities incurred on account of religious belief, to the vigorous development of national education on a broad basis, and to the active encouragement of science as an important element of general culture and an essential condition of national prosperity.

Sir John Lubbock takes the warmest interest in all these objects, and would bring to the furtherance of them in the House of Commons the same zeal and energy which he is already well known to have devoted to them without its walls. He moreover possesses unusual qualifications for such a task; for, while his intellectual and scientific eminence would give weight to his words on questions of science, of education, and of civil polity, his position in the City of London and his reputation as a man of business would obtain for him a hearing that might be denied to a man occupied exclusively in scientific pursuits. For the same reasons he is peculiarly fitted to be the spokesman in the House of Commons of the large and increasing body of scientific men, a class whose opinions have hitherto found very inadequate expression in Parliament. Such a position, it need hardly be said, the public would naturally look to the representative of the University of London to occupy; and we have conclusive evidence that it would be difficult to find any one who would fill it so completely to the satisfaction of the leading scientific men of the country as Sir John Lubbock.

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Sir John Lubbock not being a graduate of our University (or, indeed, of any other), we should, by proposing him, avoid the otherwise inevitable difficulty of appearing to act on behalf of any one section of our brother graduates. He is nevertheless closely identified with the University of London, both by his own position as an active Member of the Senate, and by the fact of his father having been one of the original Fellows and the first Vice-Chancellor of the University.

G. CAREY FOSTER, B.A.,

WM. OLDING, M.B., F.R.S.,

on behalf of the Provisional Committee.

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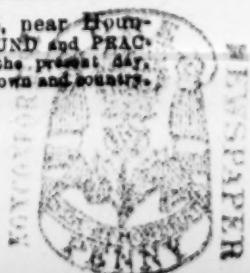
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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT, AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION"

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Eccliaastical Affairs.

MR. MATTHEW ARNOLD ON THE NONCONFORMIST.

In the July number of the *Cornhill Magazine* there is a paper by Mr. Matthew Arnold, headed "Culture and its Enemies," his last lecture, as he informs us in a foot-note, in the Poetry Chair at Oxford. Like most of Mr. Arnold's writings, it is well worth reading. The idea it is intended to set forth is not, indeed, a new one. It is but an expansion and adaptation of the lines of Ovid which the Eton Latin Grammar has pushed into the popularity of a proverb—

Ingenus didicisse scilicet artes
Enollet mores, nec sinit esse ferocis,

the last word of which the late Professor of Poetry would, no doubt, translate, "Philistines." Culture, he tells us, in his own vivacious style, implies not "a frivolous and unedifying activity" of the intellectual powers, "not solely the scientific passion," but "is a study of perfection." It "consists in being something rather than having something, in an inward condition of the mind and spirit, not in an outward set of circumstances," and produces, in the language of Swift, "the two noblest things, *sweetness and light*." Mr. Arnold, in working out this idea, aims a severe blow at our unworthy selves. We cannot give our readers an adequate impression of its force without extracting the whole paragraph.

The impulse of the English race towards moral development and self-conquest has nowhere so powerfully manifested itself as in Puritanism; nowhere has Puritanism found so adequate an expression as in the religious organisation of the Independents. The modern Independents have a newspaper, the *Nonconformist*, written with great sincerity and ability, which serves as their organ. The motto, the standard, the profession of faith which this organ of theirs carries aloft, is: "The dissidence of Dissent and the Protestantism of the Protestant religion." There is sweetness and light, and an ideal of complete harmonious human perfection! One need not go to culture and poetry to find language to judge it. Religion, with its instinct for perfection, supplies language to judge it: "Finally, be of one mind, united in feeling," says St. Peter. There is an ideal which judges the Puritan ideal!—"The dissidence of Dissent and the Protestantism of the Protestant religion." And religious organisations like this are what people believe in, rest in, would give their lives for! Such, I say, is the wonderful virtue of even the beginnings of perfection, of having conquered even the first faults of our animality, that the religious organisation which has helped us to do it can seem to us something precious, salutary, and to be propagated, even when it wears such a brand of imperfection on its forehead as this. And men have got such a habit of giving to the language of religion a special application, of making it a mere jargon, that for the condemnation which religion itself passes on the shortcomings of their religious organisations they have no ear; they are sure to cheat themselves and to explain this condemnation away. They can only be reached by the criticism which culture, like poetry, speaking a language not to be sophisticated, and resolutely testing these organisations by the ideal of a human perfection complete on all sides, applies to them.

And then, with amiable candour, the critic says of men of culture and poetry, "it has been one of their dangers that they so felt the Puritan's faults that they too much neglected the practice of his virtues. I will not, however, exculpate them at the Puritan's expense; they have often failed in morality, and morality is indispensable; they have been punished for their failure, as the Puritan has been rewarded for his performance. They have been punished wherein they erred; but their ideal of beauty, and sweetness and light, and a human nature complete on all sides, remains the true ideal of perfection still; just as the Puritan's ideal of perfection remains narrow and inadequate, although for what he did well he has been abundantly rewarded." After two or three further sentences in illustration of this thought, he proceeds:—

Do not let us deny the good and the happiness which they have accomplished; but do not let us fail to see clearly that their idea of human perfection is narrow and inadequate, and that the dissidence of Dissent and the Protestantism of the Protestant religion will never bring humanity to its true goal. As I said with regard to wealth,—let us look at the life of those who live in and for it,—so I say with regard to the religious organisations. Look at the life imagined in such a newspaper as the *Nonconformist*;—a life of jealousy of the Establishment, disputes, tea meetings, openings of chapels, sermons; and then think of it as an ideal of a human life completing itself on all sides, and aspiring with all its organs after sweetness, light, and perfection!

Now, we are not about to contest Mr. Arnold's theory of culture, which, however, as he uses it, is just another word for true Christianity. He is quite right in deploring the one-sided culture of Puritanism; there is some truth—more than we can take pleasure in confessing—in what he says about modern religious organisations. Nor are we about to claim for the *Nonconformist* higher credit than it may be found to deserve, but we submit that the sentence passed upon us is unfair, and that it expresses a judgment based upon a very hasty examination, if not upon a contemptuous refusal of any examination at all, of the evidence upon which it should have been founded. We do not blame Mr. Arnold for not including this paper among those which he reads, but we cannot hold him justified, in the absence of all knowledge respecting it, in jumping to extreme conclusions on what it suits his purpose to hold up to scorn.

We feel it our duty to relieve the Independents of all responsibility for the shortcomings of this journal. Mr. Arnold, speaking to his class at Oxford, and through the *Cornhill Magazine* to the literary world, has been content to make his statement on hearsay. The *Nonconformist* never was an organ of the Independents—never was an organ of any religious organisation whatever—never displayed any great concern to uphold any of them as such, or their theological tenets, or their ecclesiastical discipline, or their modes of perpetuating themselves. It has always been free. It never knew any committee of management, and its editor alone is answerable to the public for what may appear in its columns. It is unjust to saddle the community of Independents with faults which are exclusively ours. It is an illustration neither of "sweetness" nor of "light," to brand them with a mark of reprobation which, if deserved at all, is deserved only by a single individual whose course has never very closely identified him with the denominational specialities of any religious body.

But our "motto," our "standard," our "profession of faith"—"the dissidence of Dissent, and the Protestantism of the Protestant religion." Well, this sentence from Burke, selected above twenty-six years ago, expressed then, as it now expresses, not the totality of our faith, described not the range of our sympathies, but exhibited in a few words as could be chosen, the heart of our purpose. That purpose was twofold—to deliver religious life as embodied in the churches from the overruling and corrupting influence of Civil Governments, and to uphold the rights of

private judgment against sacerdotal tyranny—to replace religious thought, feeling, and action, upon the law of love, and to free the mind from the domination of usurped authority—in fact, to secure the conditions which are indispensable to "sweetness and light." We commenced this journal with no other object in view, and at a time when compromise of principle in regard to both Erastianism and priestism was far more common than it is now. Our motto was intended to "hold aloft" our intention that our enterprise should be grounded, not on minor or sectarian differences, but on broad, fundamental, and catholic truths, and upon these, not in their accidental forms, but in their spiritual essence. If Mr. Arnold had been well acquainted with this paper, he would not have characterised it as he has done, nor would he have held up to the contempt of men utterly ignorant of its general tenour, the life imagined by it, as "a life of jealousy of the Establishment, disputes, tea meetings, sermons." He has not done justice to his assumed office—there is neither "culture nor poetry" in magnifying trivial blemishes, if so he regards them, into a full-sized portrait of the kind of intellectual and religious life reflected in this paper, especially as in doing us this wrong, hap-hazard, in quarters where he knew it could never be set right by us, but where it would stamp us at once as wholly unworthy of exercising the smallest influence.

"A life of jealousy of the Establishment"! Why of jealousy? Why find for us, and for those whom he incorrectly supposes us to represent, the meanest motive which can prompt public effort? Why not rather say a life of undying hostility to what in its very nature and purpose is destructive of "sweetness and light," and "the ideal of a human perfection complete on all sides"? Does Mr. Arnold mean to imply that the State organisation of religious life is such an example of beauty and harmony and all-sidedness, as renders enmity to it a proof in itself of a narrow and inadequate ideal? What have we battled against for this last quarter of a century? Against "doing unto others as we would they should do unto us"! Against religious liberality, zeal, generosity, magnanimity, gentleness, charity? Against culture and the means of it, freedom of inquiry, of thought, of utterance, of combination, of action? What have we battled for? Exclusiveness, intolerance, monopoly, or priestly assumption? No—we challenge the verdict of our readers on this head. We have not asked to shut any one out of the Universities, nor insisted upon sectarian education, nor desired to compel others to support our religious organisations, nor been jealous of the intrusion of other than our own clergy into parochial burying places, nor cast contempt upon other's right to teach Christianity, nor advocated tests, nor infringed upon the sacredness of social life. We have left these things to the Establishment, and to its hierarchy, clergy, and abettors. We have set our faces against these things, and against the enlisting of the civil power to do these things—and it is all set down to "jealousy of the Establishment," by criticism "speaking a language not to be sophisticated." "Sweetness and light," forsooth—we should like to be informed how they can be diffused under a system which is professedly jealous of all others, and which is so insinuating in its influence as to pervert even "men of culture and poetry" into winking at its selfish sectarianism, and into attributing it to those whose heart's desire is to put an end to it?

If Nonconformists are narrow and inadequate in their ideal of human perfection—if they do not attach sufficient importance to culture and poetry—it ill becomes an Oxford Professor, lecturing at Oxford, to tax them with their deficiency. For two hundred years they have been shut out from that University by the exclusive and jealous spirit of the Establishment, and from whatever sweetness and light it is sup-

posed to diffuse. Why select the victims of its meanness and intolerance as an illustration of one-sidedness, when the cruel monopolist to whose injustice it should be attributed is suffered to escape? Why ridicule the stunted proportions and deformities which have been the result of hard usage, and not rather denounce the narrow and inadequate ideal of the Establishment which deliberately and persistently inflicted them? Man of letters and poetry as Mr. Matthew Arnold is, he has not showed himself free from the vice of the system in connection with which he was trained. His sympathies are with the oppressor, not the oppressed, or, if it be otherwise, he is so infected with the spirit of the place that he refrains from "speaking a language not to be sophisticated." Seizing upon our motto, misinterpreting our design, caricaturing the scope and drift of our labours, he stands up in the very presence, as it were, of a religious life organised on a basis of intolerant sectarianism, and smites not it, but those who have suffered from it. And he cannot understand their hostility to it, nor enter into their indignation, but sets it down to jealousy. May we not use his own contemptuous sarcasm, and exclaim in astonishment, "There is sweetness and light and an ideal of complete harmonious human perfection!" This is what men of letters bred up under the perverting influence of the Establishment are too apt to do. They seldom rebuke the strong tyrant—they make their sport of the weak and suffering victim. There is no magnanimity in hunting down caged animals. Why do they not strike at a more formidable quarry? They ought at least to know that a legalised monopoly of intellectual and spiritual advantage and office is the fiercest enemy of the sweetness and light which they deem it their special function to promote, and they ought not to strike down the hand which is armed to assail it. At any rate, we should have expected nobler things from Mr. Matthew Arnold.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

AS far from the members of the Archaeological Society there are perhaps comparatively few of our readers who know of the existence of the village of Eltham. It has been chiefly celebrated for containing the ruins of one of the palaces of King John, but it has also, according to tradition, other historical associations connected with it. It is said that Wesley was stoned out of the place, and that Whitfield "shook off the dust of his feet against it, and pronounced it the most barren spot in England." But it is a pretty village, and near it are some of the best features of far-famed Kentish scenery,—quiet country roads and lanes, breezy downs, and rolling hills and vales. But in the opinion of some of the representative men of culture, it contains one plague-spot. There is a Dissenting church there which, from the smallest of infant beginnings, has grown, within about twenty years, to a large, energetic, and religiously successful organisation. So rapid has been the recent progress of this church, that the building in which it has worshipped is incapable of accommodating those who would be glad to find accommodation there. The managers of the church accordingly resolved to build a new edifice. It happened, however, that at that time the only disposable land belonged to the Crown. As the Crown had already, and within a most recent period, granted, without charge, no fewer than three sites for the erection of Episcopalian churches, the Congregationalists were of opinion that they might ask for a site to be leased or sold to them. We have heard something of the personal interviews which took place on this question, between Mr. Clutton, the Surveyor of Crown Lands (and of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners), the Hon. Charles Gore, Commissioner of ditto, and the deacons of the Eltham Congregational Church. The utmost astonishment, we believe, was expressed at these interviews, that anybody should decline to attend the services of the Established Church. "There is a parish church," said one of these individuals, "and there is to be a new district church of which we have given the site, what more do you want? Why can't you go there?" Of course reasons were given why persons could not go "there." Mr. Clutton frankly—to put it in a mild form—stated that being a Churchman, his opinion was "against a grant of Crown land for Dissenting places of worship." The Hon. Charles Gore expressed similar objections, and the question then took the form of correspondence. This correspondence has since been published. We gather from it that, although the Commissioners of Crown Land had granted sites free of cost for three Episcopalian churches in this parish, they declined to grant, either on lease or on sale, any but the worst possible site for the Congregational Church. After some altercation, they

actually offered the site of the present National Schools, which are situated in the worst district of the parish, and which is about, in two years' time, to be abandoned because of that fact. This of course is the acting Commissioner's notion of religious equality in the distribution of Crown lands. The Congregationalists of Eltham, it is to be remarked, offered a perfect price for any suitable ground. They did not go begging for a free grant, but even what they asked for was refused, because it was required for Dissenting purposes.

The correspondence on the subject is before us. Never before, perhaps, was a "Commissioner" treated with such plainness, or, as somebody might say, with such want of "culture" and "sweetness." We quote from the incisive letter of Mr. G. S. Mann to Mr. Angus Jennings:—

You inform us that you are willing to treat with us for the sale of the piece of land now occupied by the parish schools. It surely cannot be unknown to you, who have so recently visited Eltham, that the site you thus offer to us for purposes is at the back of the village, surrounded by small cottages, and almost out of sight. You must also know that the site in question is considered so ineligible, even for a parish school, that it is about to be relinquished for a more prominent and open space: yet this is the site now offered to us for the erection of a Congregational Church. More than this, you are aware that the ground is at present occupied with a building, and that even if the site were suitable we must wait a long time before we could use it, for the new schools are not yet commenced. What can have been the reasons for refusing a proper site for our church, and for offering a site which you must know is in every way unsuitable for the purpose, we do not pretend to understand; but we cannot forbear expressing our very deep regret that, in the present day, when the principles of civil and religious freedom are so well understood, they should be so little respected, and that a body of Congregationalists should meet with such difficulties—and that, too, from the Crown—in seeking to erect a church in which they may worship God and promote the welfare of their fellow-men in accordance with their own deep and earnest convictions of what is right. We ventured to hope that such a day had long since become a record of the past. As regards your present offer, we feel we should only expose ourselves to ridicule, and be utterly wanting in self-respect, were we to accept it, and that we have no alternative but to decline it, which we do. We much regret the result of our application, for, with the knowledge (gained from yourself) that you have already granted three sites for the erection of churches of the Establishment in the parish of Eltham, we do feel that we have not been fairly dealt with, and we are forced to the conviction that the difficulties we have met with in seeking a site for our new church arise out of the fact that we are Nonconformists.

That is just the right kind of letter to send to such a gentleman, but as the Honourable Charles Gore had the generosity to answer it, the representatives of the Congregational Church had no alternative but to reply to him. From the reply we quote the following:—

We have already in our letter of 4th May stated our reasons for declining your offer to treat for the small piece of ground upon which the parish school stands; but if it could be obtained at once, which is impossible, or if we were not in the most out-of-the-way locality, yet being as you say too small for a parish school, would be, we respectfully beg to say, far too small for the church we intend erecting. But we need say no more on this point, except that did we not know you to be incapable as a gentleman to do so, we could hardly think this offer other than an insult or a joke. We must next close this correspondence with the expression of our regret at being compelled to put it in print; and still more do we regret that the spirit of civil and religious liberty should find so little response in a department of Government which has the management for the common weal of large territorial possessions belonging to the nation as a whole, and not to any section of her Majesty's subjects.

All that we can at present add is, first, that we congratulate Mr. Marshall, the pastor of the Congregational church at Eltham, on the ground which the officers of his church have taken in this controversy; and, secondly, on the fact that the refusal of the Crown Lands Commissioners has not operated to the disadvantage of Dissent. We are glad to learn from this correspondence that Mr. H. W. Dobell, of Eltham, has now dispensed with his coach-house and cut up his garden in order to give a suitable site for the proposed new Congregational church. It unhappily happens that this site is within twenty yards of the parish church; but for this the Commissioners of Crown Lands, who, we believe, were "operated upon" by loyal Church residents, are alone responsible. Just see, therefore, what "culture" and "sweetness" combined will do! No one—no Dissenter, at any rate, will blame the Crown itself in this matter. All the Crown lands are now managed by petty officials of the Dundreary type, whose only idea of Dissent is that it is "vulgar." No personal representative of the House of Hanover would have sanctioned the acts of a Clutton or a Gore. We have to bear with this kind of thing, because the brainless officials of the nation are selected, for the most part, from the brainless branches of the aristocracy. These men—if they can be called men—inhabit the ordinary aristocratic sneer with the ordinary Church and Church-feminine inanity. What, however, matters? In the present case Dis-

sent has gained, and the devil has been beaten. This, perhaps, is a strong way of putting it, but if Crown Surveyors and Commissioners do not represent an essentially diabolic spirit, we should like to be informed what it is they did represent? Is it Church-of-Englandism? Then, please, what is the difference between the two? This case, however, is no more than a fair representation of the unauthorised disabilities of Dissent. Not merely law, but officialism in all its branches, will be found to be arrayed against it. It will delight to "snub" a "modern Puritan." It would prostitute and degrade the Crown itself, as it has done in the Eltham case, to a low and vulgar sectarianism. This kind of thing, however, is easily beaten, and we judge that Congregationalism at Eltham will now flourish far beyond the utmost hopes of its present supporters. The whole case, however, conveys a lesson to every Dissenter, and principally because it does so, we have quoted it. Have we, before the Crown, equal rights to those enjoyed by Churchmen, or have we not? If we are satisfied with less, we are nothing better than slaves.

We direct the attention of the reader to the resolutions passed at a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the Liberation Society, on the subject of the Irish Church. The resolutions, which bear the mark of anxious and careful preparation, are, as will be seen, chiefly levelled against the proposal to endow, with State property, the Roman Catholic Church of Ireland. At present, this proposal is a matter of theory only, but we warn our readers that it may very soon become a matter of practical politics.

The debate in the House of Lords on Monday evening, on the Ritualistic Commission, gives significant indications, not merely of the tendencies of Church parties, but of the hitherto unimaginable indiscretions and exaggerations of such an exalted and perfect person as an Archbishop. We speak of Archbishops with due reverence, knowing, of course, that they are always "elected" by a warrant from what is called the Crown, and that those who refused to obey such a warrant would find themselves placed in inconvenient circumstances. Well, the Archbishop of Canterbury had stated, as a matter of fact, and official authority, and not of belief, that before the Legislature pronounced on present Church difficulties Convocation would be consulted. On Monday night the Earl of Shaftesbury asked the Archbishop of Canterbury for his authority for such a grave statement. Not being man of "culture and sweetness," we are obliged to state that the result of the Archbishop's answer was that the Archbishop had made a direct mis-statement. Hence as we may with the facts of the case, this is the sole result. The Archbishop stated what Lord Derby in effect declared was not true, and the Archbishop himself could not defend the letter which he had written. We have, now, therefore, three situations—Convocation has decided, point blank, that it has a "right" to be consulted on the alterations concerning Church laws and government; Government has decided that it has no right to be so consulted; and the Archbishop of Canterbury has stated that he has "authority" for saying that Convocation will be consulted. The same authority has said, on being pressed to the proof, that he had no warrant for such a declaration, and Lord Derby has deliberately thrown the Archbishop over by neck and crop and heels. This, of course, is what comes of consecration. No! Is not this what comes of Archbishopism? The Archbishop of Canterbury has now been obliged to retract his own most positive declaration, and to declare himself a downright inventor of facts. Well, the Archbishop when at Stapleton performed some marvellous feats in paper-hanging and flower-gardening, and this can scarcely exceed any one of them—except in morality.

THE CANONISATION CEREMONY IN ROME.

The canonisation ceremony and the centenary of St. Peter and St. Paul were celebrated on the 29th of June with great splendour. Five hundred prelates, cardinals, archbishops, and bishops attended the Pope in St. Peter's, which was filled by 40,000 persons. It is said that there were 25,000 ecclesiastics present, one half of whom were believed to be from France. The Neapolitan royal family and the whole of the Diplomatic Body occupied seats round the choir. At six o'clock in the morning St. Peter's was already full. At seven the Servitors began to light the great wax tapers which hung suspended in festoons beneath the arches, under the colossal statues.

Twenty-five thousand tapers were thus soon made to shed their light upon the building, giving to the crimson tapestry a deeper hue, now that all daylight was excluded, and lending increased brilliancy to the gilding. Sometimes a puff of wind blew aside a curtain, and then down streamed on one particular spot a sunbeam so bright and unexpected that it seemed like a flash of lightning, startling those around as if danger were near. Grand, however, than all else in the way of light was a colossal inverted cross formed of prisms of glass, which had been sought for far and wide. Above it were the

keys, gigantic in their proportions and formed of the same material, while above them still was suspended an enormous tiara of coloured glass. Hanging, as did these brilliant symbols of the Roman Catholic faith, in the centre of the nave, and flashing and glittering with direct and reflected light, the spectacle was indescribably beautiful.

At nine o'clock some drapery caught fire at the extremity of the right aisle of the cathedral, while some wax tapers were being lighted. The flames spread to the ornamental hangings in the immediate vicinity, which were instantly destroyed. The multitude assembled in the cathedral became alarmed, and a rush to the doors had commenced, when the firemen arrived, and succeeded in extinguishing the flames a minute or two before the Pope entered the building. Some ill-secured lustres fell to the ground, and caused slight hurts to several persons. Shortly after a man named Achille Rossif, a native of Cremona, committed suicide. The poor fellow, it appears, was so dazzled by the wonders of the scene, that he lost his head, and cut his throat with a pen-knife, that he might enter at once on the enjoyment of a Paradise which the glories around him were supposed to typify. According to the rules of the Romish Church, the sacred edifice had to be reconsecrated, and the Pope, rising from his chair, gave the Papal benediction, which prevented the necessity of suspending the ceremonies. The *Times* correspondent thus describes the entrance of the bishops:—

Soon after eight o'clock some minor orders began to enter, and then came the bishops, two and two, amounting to 480. Wearing a red cope in honour of the martyrs, they presented a grand spectacle. Many of them wore a violet-coloured berretta on the head, instead of a black one. Each carried his mitre, white for the most part, though there were varieties, as in the dress. Some had mitres resembling Imperial crowns, studded with precious stones, while some wore over the cope a dress resembling a Hussar's jacket with upright collars rigid with gold. Of European bishops France has the greatest show, Austria perhaps the smallest, being represented only by the Primate of Hungary, who is followed by four servants in Hussar uniforms. England sends more than half her bishops; Ireland, contrary to the information I received and communicated, has fourteen. Scotland, too, is not behind. There are bishops also from Canada and the United States; four from India and China, besides many other arrivals. As to the Chinese bishop, I learn on better authority that he is a Frenchman. Each bore a lighted taper, and as soon as they were seated, and the archbishops, among whom I recognised Dr. Manning, had arranged themselves on either side of the throne, the silver trumpets in the cloister announced the approach of the Pontiff. They always perform the same music, but sweeter notes it is impossible to conceive. In advance were the cardinals, Dr. Cullen among them, and Antonelli, looking as he has done for twenty years, calm and imperturbable. These took their seats on the lower benches on either side of the Presbytery, forty-three in number, and in the centre of 533 princes and dignitaries of the Church Pius IX. was borne in on his chair. So large a number has never, I believe, been assembled together, at least in modern times; in 1862 there were not more than 250 bishops. Altogether the Church possesses between eight and nine hundred, and fifty-three or four cardinals; so that more than one-half of her staff, so to speak, met on this occasion.

As the Pope ascended his throne, he stood for several minutes as if transfixed, cardinals and bishops, with their lighted tapers, surrounding him, and a sea of heads surging and stretching away to the extreme distance. He is said to have looked pale with suppressed emotion. The cardinals having paid their homage by kissing the hand, and some of the bishops by kissing the knee of his Holiness, the great function of the day, the canonisation of the martyrs, began. The ceremony is thus described by the writer already referred to:—

When all was ready, the cardinal charged to conduct the canonisation advanced to the throne, accompanied by a master of ceremonies and an advocate of the consistory, who in the name of the cardinal begged *instante* that his Holiness would permit the names of the twenty-five Beati to be enrolled in the catalogue of saints. The Prelate Secretary of the *Brefs ad Principes* replied in Latin that the Holy Father was well acquainted with their virtues, but before deciding upon so important an affair exhorted that intercession should be made to the Apostles and all the Court of Heaven for light to guide him. The Pope and all the mitred host then knelt, while two singing chaplains intoned the Litany of the Saints, the ecclesiastics joining in, and the vast multitude in the church responding as with the voice of many waters. There is a plaintive monotony in the notes which is very touching, and, familiar as they are to the members of the Roman Catholic Church, not a voice was silent, and a body of sound rose and swelled through the vast edifice that made one's nerves thrill with emotion.

The same forms being observed as in the first instance, a second time the cardinal advanced, and the request was made *instante et instantius* that the Beati should be canonised, when, in answer, prayers to the Holy Spirit, the source of light and holiness, were implored. Again the Pope and his prelates knelt and prayed, and, rising, his Holiness intoned the *Veni Creator Spiritus* with a voice so clear and loud, and with a precision so remarkable, that people looked upon one another with astonishment. A third time the postulant's advanced, and entreated *instante, instantius, instantissime* that the canonisation should take place, and an answer was returned that the Holy Father, convinced that the act was approved by God, would now pronounce his definitive decision, which he accordingly did, seated in his chair of state, with his mitre on his head. After some other forms the *Confiteamus* or *Deceamus*, was repeated, the silver trumpets sounded, the cannon roared from St. Angelo, and all the bells in the city were rung for joy at the consummation of the hopes of the Church.

The *Te Deum* was then intoned by the Pope, sung by the choir, and the vast assembly joined in the hymn of Ambrose.

I confess that even now days the *Times* correspon-

dent) I choke with emotion as I recall the impression it made upon me. That glorious hymn, chanted as it was by tens of thousands in union, will ring in my ears for ever, and I found myself joining in the universal song of praise, not as a Roman Catholic with Roman Catholics, but as a Christian man with his fellow-men in acknowledgment of that Great Power whom we all worship.

High Mass was performed immediately after the conclusion of the ceremony of canonisation. Then came the offertory, which on this occasion included the presentation of the offerings made to the Pope by the friends of the new saints, or the religious orders to which they belonged.

During the whole of the morning they lay on tables on the left of the high altar. They consisted first of five large wax candles, weighing two of them sixty Roman pounds, and three 12lb. each. These were beautifully painted with flowers, intermingled with arabesque, in gold and silver. Secondly, two large loaves, on silver salvers, one of which was gilt, bearing the arms of the Pontiff. Thirdly, two barrels, one plated with gold, the other with silver, filled, one with wine and the other with water. Fourthly, three cages of elegant construction, in one of which were two turtle-doves, in another two pigeons, and in the third various small birds of different kinds. Each saint presented the offerings above described, and the ceremony was conducted with great pomp. As many saints so many processions, each formed by two macebearers and a master of the ceremonies, two cardinals preceded by their gentlemen, and followed by two members of the order to which the saint belonged, or by two priests or laymen, the postulator of the cause and two other cardinals with their gentlemen bringing up the rear. The ceremony therefore continued for some time, and during this interval we were indulged with a Litany composed expressly for the occasion by the well-known soprano Mustafa, in which the names of the new saints were introduced for the first time. To give effect to the music three several choirs were formed, one of which was placed, under the direction of Mustafa, near the High Altar; another over the great window at the entrance of the church, directed by Melizzi; and a third, composed of 400 voices, in the cupola, under the direction of Capocci. Such delicious music surely was never heard, as the dulcet tones floated in a series of echoes through the vast building—first rising from earth in a full body of sound, then gradually diminishing in power, though not in distinctness, and then softly breathing forth as though they were angels' whispers. As the High Mass proceeded, and the incense began to spread its misty veil over every object, nothing could exceed the beautiful effect of colour. His Holiness took the sacrament in both kinds; the benediction was given, and the long-expected ceremonies of a day which will mark an important epoch in the history of the Church were over.

The Ecumenical Council, announced for next year, will, it is said, have to pronounce on three orders of questions: first, the errors of contemporary reasoners in a Papal point of view; next, the modifications which may be with propriety introduced into the discipline of the Church; and lastly, it will have to give its opinion on the existence of the temporal power. It seems that the Ultramontane party do not have it all their own way. At least, that is the conclusion to be drawn from the following interesting statement contained in correspondence from Rome relative to the bishop's address in reply to the Pope's allocution:—

The draft of the address brought over by Archbishop Manning, and presented to Cardinal Mattei for the consideration of the committee of bishops, which met for the purpose after the allocution at the Altieri Palace, was much more energetic; so much so, indeed, that it was quashed in its most important paragraphs, and so rendered mutilated and abortive. The details of this little bit of ecclesiastical Parliamentary discussion are amusing. When Cardinal Mattei introduced Monsignore Manning's proposed address to the motley assemblage of bishops collected in committee to decide upon the text, his eminence began to read it in Italian. On which, up rose an Oriental bishop, and protested against the use of that language, with which he was not familiar, and proposed that as the Church has a language peculiarly her own, Latin should be spoken during the discussion. The cardinal consequently made an attempt to read the address at once in Latin, but broke down; so that the first meeting was a short one, and the next deferred until the Pope's Latin secretary, Monsignore Pacifici, could give a Latin version of the document. In the subsequent discussions Monsignore Manning's three principal points were struck out. His strong observations in condemnation of the Emperor of Russia were immediately objected to by a conforming Greek bishop, who stated that he lived in the Czar's dominions, where he and his flock received protection, and that it would be ungrateful as well as unsafe for him to sign any such strictures on his sovereign's conduct. The animadversions against Victor Emmanuel were objected to by the majority of the Italian bishops, who stated that they had been favourably impressed by their late restoration to their sees and reception; and finally the archbishop's laudatory remarks on the attachment of the Romans to the Pope and their spiritual and temporal pastors and masters were considered to be exaggerated in general, and especially objected to by some Roman prelates as calculated to excite subsequent censures, and perhaps provoke a reactionary feeling. Monsignore Manning attempted to harangue his co-peers in defence of his address; but the English bishops present, who dislike him as a convert, and have not forgiven him for the partiality shown him by the Pope in appointing him above their heads to the See of Westminster, cast in their votes against him, and so reduced his address at once to a case of *fasco*.

In reply to the deputation of some 2,000 persons, who presented him with addresses of devotion from 100 Italian cities, collected together in the form of a magnificent album, the Pope made the following characteristic speech:—

I have always loved Italy; I have prayed for her happiness, and God knows my affection for her. Nevertheless I must condemn, and I shall ever condemn, the efforts that are made in Italy to constitute a unity without charity, without justice, a unity cursed by God. (Here his Holiness was interrupted for a few moments by en-

thusiastic applause, and cries of "Very good," "Very good," "Yes, cursed, cursed;" "Long live the Holy Father.") I desire that the rights of all should be respected, and especially those of the Church; and I, therefore, solemnly protest against the violation which those rights have suffered. ("Yes, yes," and vivas for the Church.) I am deeply touched by so many demonstrations of affection from the veritable children of Italy. This album, your presence here, are to me solemn assurances of the piety of the majority of Italians. Bear to your families and your cities the expressions of my gratitude and my special benediction. ("Long live the Holy Father! Long live the Pope-King!")

The Pope manifested much emotion, even to tears, at the affectionate enthusiasm of the assembly. All present were admitted to kiss the hand of his Holiness before departure. An address to the Powers is now being circulated among the bishops, calling upon them to restore to the Holy See the former Pontifical provinces now incorporated with the Italian kingdom. Up to the present it has received but an inconsiderable number of signatures.

NEW SCHEME OF AN IRISH UNIVERSITY.

(From the *Londonderry Standard*.)

A programme for the establishment of a new Irish University has been drawn up by some anonymous authority, or authorities, and largely circulated amongst members of the House of Commons, besides being printed in the Ultramontane organs published in Dublin. The following is an outline of the scheme proposed:—

1. That a charter, endowment, and the ordinary powers of granting degrees, shall be conferred upon a University in Dublin, with its dependant college, both of these institutions to bear the same relation to the Roman Catholic Church as that now held by Trinity College to the Irish Established Church.

2. That this Roman Catholic University shall include Maynooth College, a lay college chartered and endowed in Dublin, and all other colleges which the University authorities may choose to affiliate.

3. That the endowments shall not be less than those now granted to the Queen's University, and to "one of the Queen's colleges"—that students not belonging to the Roman Catholic faith shall enjoy all the advantages now allowed to Roman Catholics in Trinity College, admission to literary and scientific degrees, &c., and "capability of holding offices not connected with the government of the college, as fully as Roman Catholics are now admissible to such offices in Trinity College." An addendum is subjoined to the effect that, this scheme would be a "final settlement of the question of University education in Ireland, and all classes could receive such education in conformity with their religious principles and traditions." The relative scale of endowment is set down at the following, viz.—Dublin University (Trinity College), 34,000*l.*; Queen's University, 30,000*l.*; "Catholic University," 38,000*l.*

We do not, of course, know the authorship of this document; but it has evidently not been prepared without the knowledge and provisional concurrence of the heads of the Ultramontane party in this country. The proposed new University is intended to be a State institution in point of pecuniary support, but not a syllable is hinted in regard to State supervision in regard to the strictly secular departments of University education, and without some efficient guarantee of this kind, we do not see how the State could confer upon any irresponsible body authority to grant degrees in secular science, so as to be reliable certificates of proved merit. What we regard, however, as mainly important is this—the programme above sketched corresponds with remarkable exactness to the general plan obscurely shadowed forth by Lord Naas, in his late speech on the Trinity College question, as likely to satisfy the demands of parties in this country, without "interfering with existing institutions." This remarkable episode, as our readers may remember, struck us at the time, and the friends of free education in this country would do well to watch the current of events, since Derby Toryism has now become proverbial for the surprises it creates in the way of self-transforming adaptation to unprincipled expediencies.

TURKISH MISSIONS-AID SOCIETY.

The thirteenth annual meeting of the members and friends of this society, which acts in conjunction with the parent institution in the United States of America, was held on Thursday, under the presidency of the Earl of Shaftesbury, at Willis's Rooms, St. James's. Dr. Holt Yates, the hon. secretary, read the report of the past year's proceedings in the five missions of Western Turkey, having Constantinople for its centre, Eastern Turkey, Central Turkey, Syria, and Nestoria, showing that large bodies of Moslems, Armenians, Bulgarians, Mahomedans, Persians, Syrians, and Greeks, have adopted the Christianity of the Reformed Church, and in that faith are supporting very many places of worship, with native pastors, schools for children, and theological seminaries for the youth of both sexes. The Koran is fast disappearing, to give place to the Bible, which, with the New Testament, is translated into the various languages, and freely circulated throughout the different missions, while the missionaries pass from town to village preaching the Gospel by the wayside, and showing the people how to organise Christian communities, establish schools, and make converts. The original prejudice or jealousy with which they were at first received is, with one or two exceptions, rapidly subsiding. Two remarkable cases of the conversion of a Persian and a Turkish officer, together with his wife, are mentioned, and at one place the Pasha of the district had been induced to attend the service, and at numerous others the pulpits are now occupied by pastors who preach the new faith. At Oorfa, the ancient Ur of the Chaldees,

ninety new members were added last year to the number of the converted. The report makes reference to the persecutions Christians still occasionally have to encounter, and acknowledges in warm terms the assistance the missions have from time to time derived from the protection of Lord Lyons. The receipts, including a former balance of 19*l.*, had amounted in this country to 2,623*l.*, and the expenditure left a balance in hand of about 400*l.* The report having been adopted and ordered to be printed, the meeting was addressed by

The Rev. M. PARNELL, missionary at Erzeroum, in Armenia, who expressed a hope that no mistake would be made in the reception of the Sultan, or he might return to Turkey under great misapprehension. The English people should take every opportunity to show him that they had no sympathy with the corrupt system of government that prevailed in his country, where women were degraded below the condition of a slave, and justice could be obtained from the law by those only who were sufficiently wealthy to be able to bribe its administrators. Above all, we should do nothing that could lead him into the error of supposing that the demoralising spirit and tendency of his religion found any countenance in Protestant England.

The Rev. C. WHEELER, missionary at Kharpoat, in Asia Minor, also delivered an address, pointing out that the introduction of the Bible was civilising the people, advancing the cultivation of the land, and developing resources of incalculable value to European commerce.

The CHAIRMAN said the missions were doing a great deal of good, and must continue to grow in importance, as we should soon be called upon to find a solution for the great Eastern question. The Turkish empire could not continue much longer in its present position, or as it now stood. If it should please the Almighty to cause its downfall, we might then have to consider what should be the destiny or allotment of all those vast fertile provinces now composing the empire of Turkey, and teeming with enormous populations. But this society had nothing to do with the political concerns of these different races of people. All that it had to do was to endeavour to inspire them with Christian sentiments, and leave them afterwards to fashion their own institutions according to their own tastes. (Hear, hear.) With regard to the remarks of the first rev. gentleman, he need be under no apprehension in the matter, as there was only one man and one writer in this country who had recorded that there were many things in Mahomedanism vastly superior to Christianity, and he did not think the Sultan was likely to come in contact with that gentleman. (Laughter.) If the Sultan should go through our streets, or into public or private society, and with the happiness and good order that would no doubt be found everywhere, his Majesty would have the best proof of the advantage of elevating the condition of woman, without encroaching upon the principle which allows every man to follow out his own religious views. (Hear, hear.) No; let the Sultan see our respect and admiration for the genial influence which woman exercised over the Court and society at large; and that would be the best way to impress him with the value of our example. (Hear.) The Turkish Government, however, were far in advance of their people; and if they were left to act according to their own judgment, a great many beneficial reforms would be introduced into the country; and he hoped this society would be enabled to redouble its efforts, and assist them in spreading over some of the most beautiful provinces on the face of the earth the great moral and social blessings of civil and religious liberty. (Cheers.)

The executive committee for England was then re-appointed, and a cordial vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

ECCLIASTICAL GRANTS AT THE CAPE.

In the South African House of Assembly on the 27th of May there was a field-day on the Voluntary Bill of Mr. Solomon, one of the members for Capetown. The debate excited a good deal of public interest. The provisions of the bill are thus described by a local paper:—

It proposes to place all religious denominations on a fair and equal footing in the future, and yet it protects the vested interests of not merely existing incumbents, but of parishes and churches as well, with handsome generosity. It provides that in no case shall the new system of voluntary support come into operation until five years after the passing of the bill; and that present holders of pastoral office shall continue to enjoy their stipends or pensions for life, or until resignation. In this way all parties concerned have full and ample notice of the responsibilities and liabilities which are ultimately to fall upon them, and so may make preparation to meet them as best they may.

Mr. Solomon, in proposing the second reading of his bill, stated that out of over four hundred churches in the colony only eighty-one received help from the Government, and these eighty-one were principally situated in the larger towns—Capetown alone taking one fifth of the whole grant. Mr. Solomon then proceeded to make a detailed comparison between the contributions of Churches which were subsidised by the Government and those which relied on their own exertions, all showing, as he maintained, that the self-reliance of the people, and their habit of giving, were injured and impaired by State assistance. In conclusion, he referred to the petitions forwarded against the measure, nineteen in number, signed by a little more than 2,000 members out of a community numbering 140,000. He asked whether that was not a most insignificant result, when every effort had been made by circulars from the Scriba of the Dutch Church to get petitions

signed. With all the machinery of a powerful body at command, they had only been able to get 2,000 signatures to those petitions. None had been forwarded by the English Church, none by the Wesleyans, and none by the Scotch Church. The honourable member read an account of a meeting in a Queenstown paper, in which native Christians had announced liberal contributions towards the funds of the Church. He recommended the ministers of the Dutch Church to read these interesting accounts to the people. The honourable member concluded an able and exhaustive speech by commending his bill to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. Tennant, in opposing the bill, spoke of the alleged failure of the voluntary principle, and said that ten or eleven of the Dutch Churches were unable to get ministers for want of State aid.

Mr. Forster defended the grants on the broad principle that a Christian government was bound to assist in the religious education of the people. This obligation had been universally admitted by Christian States, and he was quite sure it rested on the Government of the Cape. There was a good deal of uncertainty, he maintained, in the action of the voluntary principle, and that uncertainty was greatly felt in a country where the climate was so uncertain. We were not a progressive people, as other countries were, who might probably with safety adopt voluntarism. We needed a substantial basis as a nucleus around which the voluntary principle could gather. He maintained that if these grants were withdrawn the efforts of the Church to minister to the wants of the poor would be seriously crippled.

Dr. Scholtz made a brief but effective speech in support of the bill.

Dr. White, in a brief and clearly-reasoned speech, supported the bill.

Mr. Rutherford dwelt on the fact that only nineteen petitions had been presented to the House, representing but an insignificant fraction of the members of the Dutch Reformed Church. The honourable member referred to the argument that the Government was bound to do something to promote religion. He (Mr. Rutherford) thought so too. But he considered that Government best served the interests of vital religion by letting it alone. Referring to the spirit of liberality amongst the members of the Dutch Reformed Church, he said that the members were willing to give great sums for the prosecution of lawsuits while they contributed in a niggardly fashion to the support of their ministry. And he had heard such say over and over again that their minister was provided for by Government, and did not need their assistance. He concluded his speech by an eloquent reference to the growth of public opinion on the question, and by imploring the House to settle this long-veiled question once and for ever.

Mr. Kotzé said that the fact that he belonged to a congregation which had three ministers, who drew between them nearly a thousand pounds, filled him with indignation and sorrow. We were bound, he said, by the precepts of religion to deal fairly with each other, and stop this system of favouritism which obtained.

Mr. Reid was thoroughly opposed to State grants, and he was surprised that any honourable member could defend them.

Mr. George Wood was opposed to the second reading of the bill. He thought that, so long as many Churches had to rely on extraneous aid, it was right for a Christian Government to do its part in supporting them.

After short speeches from Messrs. Bowker, Miller, Boyes, and Stanton, Mr. Solomon wound up the debate in a smart and telling speech. On a division, the second reading of the bill was carried by a majority of five, amidst loud cheering. The actual numbers, including pairs, were—for the second reading, 28; against it, 23.

In commenting on the debate and division, the *South African Advertiser and Mail* speaks of it as a great advance:—

Some of the most strenuous opponents of the bill in former years are now amongst its most enthusiastic supporters; while the whole country, looking quietly on, has at last become convinced that the change contemplated is inevitable, and is far more likely to result in good than evil. The member for Capetown is entitled to the warm thanks of his adherents for the skill and prudence and persistent energy with which he has advocated his cause during these long thirteen years; and though we cannot call ourselves volunteers in his extreme sense of the term, we also heartily congratulate him on his success.

Our own correspondent writes as follows:—

The bill is by no means safe yet. It is not unlikely that it may be lost at some future stage, or, even if passed by the House of Assembly, may be lost in the Legislative Council. But that will only delay our final triumph for a year or two. The affirmation of the principle by our most numerous, popular, and representative House settles the question, and I lose no time in giving you the information, as another and encouraging illustration of the progress of those principles in which you take so deep an interest.

THE KETTLEBURGH CHURCH-RATE CASE.—The following petition explains itself:—

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The humble petition of the members of the Suffolk Benevolent Society, assembled at a meeting, held at Stowmarket, on the 21st of June, 1867, Sheweth,—That your petitioners are deeply concerned at the fact that Mr. John Brighton Grant, formerly a brewer and maltster at Kettleburgh, in the county in

which your petitioners reside, is now, and has for three months past, been confined as a prisoner, in Whitecross-street Prison, London, for the non-payment of the costs of litigation occasioned by the attempt of the parochial authorities at Kettleburgh to enforce the payment of a Church-rate.

That, seeing that your honourable House has, by repeated majorities, condemned such exactions as unjust and unnecessary, your petitioners express their surprise and pain that one of their neighbours should not only be deprived of his means of livelihood, but also of his liberty, in order to compel him to support a religious system from which he conscientiously dissents.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray your honourable House to put an end to so unchristian a means of supporting religious observances by passing a measure by which Church-rates will be at length abolished.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

On behalf of the meeting,

OLIVER PRENTICE, Chairman.

THE RITUAL COMMISSION.—The Rev. Mr. Bennett, of Frome, was on Friday under examination for three hours before the Ritualistic Commission.

ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION.—The next meetings of the Union will be held in the city of Manchester, on Monday, the 7th October, and four following days.

MOVABLE CHAPELS are suggested in a letter to the *English Independent*. One, in particular, said to have cost 80*l.*, will accommodate 120 people. Its removal and re-erection cost 10*l.* It has in two or three cases been the precursor of permanent chapels; other villages are waiting their turn.

THE BISHOPS IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.—Mr. Hadfield has given notice that on the second reading of the Increase of the Episcopate Bill, he will move that it is the opinion of the House that the sitting of the bishops in Parliament is unfavourable in its operation to the general interests of the Christian religion in this country. The second reading stands for July 16. It is said that the Government are inclined to father it.

THE SPURGEON ORPHANAGE.—The lady who gave Mr. Spurgeon 20,000*l.* to erect an orphanage has since ordered her plate to be sold for the same object; and Mr. Spurgeon asserts that the donor has thereby "set an example to all believers who have surplus and unused gold and silver which ought to be put to better use than lying wrapped up in a box."—*South London Press*.

TEMPERANCE SERMON IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.—The special services in Westminster Abbey were very largely attended on Sunday evening, it having become known that, in compliance with the desire of the Very Reverend Dean Stanley, the Rev. Robert Maguire, M.A., incumbent of Clerkenwell, was to deliver a special sermon on the temperance question as a testimony against the deep and terrible reproach which has fallen on the otherwise fair escutcheon of England's greatness. A considerable number of distinguished individuals were present. The preacher took for his text the fifth chapter of Joshua, ninth verse.

RITUALISM AT WINDSOR.—Not a little consternation was excited in the parish church of St. John's, Windsor, on Sunday morning, when the Rev. F. H. Thompson, the senior curate, doing duty for the Rev. H. J. Ellison, who has been abroad for some months on account of illness, ascended the pulpit in his surplice and gave out as his text—"What are these which are arrayed in white robes?" &c. He stated his reasons for departing from the usual custom to be, first, that the Bishop of Oxford had recommended it in his pastoral letter; secondly, that he had the permission of the vicar; thirdly, that it was not a Roman Catholic innovation; and fourthly, that it was less expensive. He added that this was his second innovation, the first being the publication of the banns of marriage from within the communion rails. In the evening the Rev. T. Rooke, formerly curate of the parish, followed the same course; and during his sermon said that it was intended to introduce a bill into Parliament to make the practice universal.

AN IRISH PRESBYTERIAN PAPER ON INDISCRIMINATE ENDOWMENT.—It would seem that Earl Russell's plan of settlement is to vest in the Episcopal Church two-fifths of all existing Church revenues, to hand over two-fifths more to the Roman Catholic hierarchy, and to apply the remaining one-fifth to "educational" objects. The truth is, this "redistribution" of ecclesiastical property would content no party, since it would be the merest sham as a general provision for denominational wants. There are simply two, and only two feasible schemes of adjustment, one or other of which statesmen must adopt, if they wish to avoid new perplexities—namely, either the equal endowment of all religious denominations in Ireland, or their equal disendowment and separation from the State. To the former we have invincible objections, on the ground both of religious principle and of sound policy; the latter we do not advocate on its merits, but we would submit to it as a necessary alternative, rather than accept an arrangement based upon the infidel assumption that, so far as States are concerned, religious truth, and anti-scriptural error, are things of pure indifference, and ought to be equally sustained and propagated at the cost of the national Exchequer.—*Londonderry Standard*.

THE CIRCULATION OF THE SCRIPTURES AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—The Rev. Newman Hall sends us the following:—"The most interesting sight I witnessed was the Bible stand. It is a circular building just outside the chief entrance, on the right. It has open windows round it, over which are the names of different nations. Within are twelve missionaries who speak fifteen languages, and give away to all comers copies of the Gospels in English, French, German, Dutch, Spanish, Italian, Arabic, Hebrew, Russian, Portuguese, &c. As many as eight hundred thousand copies have already been distributed to

eager applicants. Instead of sending colporteurs to take the Bible all through Europe, all Europe comes to them to obtain it at one great centre. Not only are the books given, but words of explanation are spoken. Five hundred soldiers are marched daily into the Exposition as a guard. Each of these receives the New Testament. Thus already 25,000 soldiers are already in possession of the Word of God. As one thousand copies of the Gospels can be furnished for fifty shillings, it is hoped that Christians in England will not allow the supply to be exhausted as long as the Exposition remains open. Could not donations be received by the publishers of our religious newspapers and forwarded to Mr. Hawkes, the zealous promoter of this distribution?"

THE CHURCH-RATE AT GREAT BERKHAMSTEAD.—In the box placed in the lobby of the Baptist church, Great Berkhamstead, for the reception of weekly offerings on behalf of the building fund, a donor deposited, enclosed in an envelope, the sum of 13s., with the following statement—"Surplus of the money taken forcibly for the support of the Established Church, voluntarily handed over to the Baptist cause." Last year the Baptists raised upwards of 100l. on behalf of the building fund of their new church, in addition to their ordinary expenses; the Church-rate amounted to 130l. Mr. C. H. Spurgeon, on a recent visit to Tring, in one of his prayers thus referred to the seizures recently made on behalf of the Church—"God grant that those in this neighbourhood who are suffering for conscience' sake, who are taking joyfully the spoiling of their goods, may be supported in their honoured situation, and may the number be greatly increased until the abomination be removed, and those who give robbery for burnt-offering be put to shame."

THE RELIGION OF MINORS.—The Lord Chancellor of Ireland gave his decision on Saturday in the case of the Purcell minors, which was before him a short time ago. The mother of the minors, who is a Roman Catholic, removed her two children, at great pecuniary loss to herself, outside the jurisdiction of the court, and took them to France, where she had them educated in the Roman Catholic religion. This step was taken by Mrs. Purcell for the purpose of evading an order of the late Master of the Rolls, directing the children to be brought up in the Protestant religion, pursuant to the dying wish of their father, who had been a Protestant. After the removal of the minors from the jurisdiction, an attachment issued against Mrs. Purcell. One of the minors (a girl) died in France, and the mother then returned with her son and submitted to the authority of the court. She made a lengthened affidavit, in which she set forth that her son had been brought up in the Roman Catholic religion, and had imbibed the principles of that faith. The Lord Chancellor now stated that he would make an order for an attachment against her—the attachment not to issue—and that she should, within a fortnight, give a security and find two sureties in 10,000l. not to take the minor out of the jurisdiction, and to obey all orders of the court with reference to residence and everything else concerning the minor. When she had entered into this security he would make such an order as was suitable for a boy of the minor's expectations, with a view to his future welfare.

THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS AND RITUALISM.—The most un-Ritualistic of Christian denominations has, as might have been expected, lifted up its voice against Ritualism, and recalls professing Christians to certain elementary truths in the Christian religion which in these days are apt to be lost sight of. The yearly meeting epistle of the Friends of 1867 contains the following passage:—"We deplore the increasing adoption of rites and ceremonies in some of the professing churches around us, and of the lamentable extent to which a reliance upon them has been substituted for the simple spiritual worship which our Saviour enjoined. The ceremonial law had an important place in the Divine economy, as typical of the glorious realities of the Gospel. But it was confined to the one chosen people. It was not designed to embrace the world. It was ended in Him in whom it was fulfilled. The one sacrifice has been offered, once for all. The worship under the new and everlasting covenant has been set up—a worship not of types, of ritual, or of form, but in spirit and in truth. The priesthood of Aaron is passed away. The High Priest, who continueth ever, has entered into the holy places not made with hands, 'now to appear in the presence of God for us.' To Him, as head over all things, is given all power in heaven and in earth. Through Him alone we have access by one Spirit unto the Father. By the same Eternal Spirit, He manifests His abiding presence with His church. No tribe or family, no class or order of men, has now exclusive privileges in the things of God. The testimony of the apostles assures us that all the members of the church, redeemed with the blood of the Lamb, are consecrated as priests unto God, to offer up not material but spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. The service of the new covenant is a heart-service, not to be performed by proxy, one for another. And if the mediation of a human priesthood be done away in Him who is the one Mediator, rites and ceremonies can avail nothing in aid of His all-sufficient work."

UNION CHURCHES.—About a fortnight ago the foundation-stone of a new union chapel and school was laid at Stretford, a suburb of Manchester, by Mr. J. Rylands, of Twyford Hall. The Rev. Hugh Stowell Brown, the Rev. G. W. Conder, the Rev. F. Bugby (late of Preston, the pastor of the new church), and the Rev. A. M'Laren, B.A., took part in the proceedings. Mr. M'Laren congratulated his friends at Stretford on the work which they had commenced, and proceeded to say,—

It was fashionable in these days, not only among

Churchmen, but—more was the pity—amongst Dissenters, to elevate one part of the Christian service above the other, and at the expense of that other. They heard a great deal now about the superiority of worshipping to preaching. He did not in the least pit one against the other, but he was glad to think that this was a place for preaching quite as much as for the worship of God. The great means of the salvation of the world was by communication of God's truth to man, and so surely was worship only the echo of His word. It would be a black day for the Dissenters of England when they began to think that the ordinance of preaching was of scant importance as compared with the ordinances of the Church. They were met to lay the foundation stone of a place for worship. He did not think that they were going to be ritualists here. There were two distinct kinds of ritualism—one was vicious; the other was, if not virtuous, one whose failings leaned to virtue's side. There was no reason why good and devout men should not say they thought the worship was too bare, that it would be better to have a little more participation by the congregation in it, and a little more adornment than at present. Be that so. If any one said so he would not object. He, for his part, should stand by the plainest service, because he liked it better. He was not ashamed to say that he looked upon the building of this place of worship with gladness, because it would be another voice added to many that were proclaiming the great message of salvation by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ. He was glad to think it would be another voice added to many that were proclaiming the truth to Christian men, and the independence of the Christian Church of the patronage or control of any State whatsoever. More than this, the building about to be erected would be a chapel dedicated to union. Nothing had more thoroughly commended itself to his (Mr. M'Laren's) conscience and judgment than the attempt to raise congregations in which the differences of opinion about baptism should be no bar to a thorough-going fellowship with Christian men. If his brother in the pulpit was to be troubled about what he thought about baptism, it was an unholy alliance, and they ought not to be such cowards as to be afraid to assert their views when any sort of opposition was brought against them; and, for his part, he believed that the one solution of the question which was beginning to work in the minds of the best men on both sides as to the possible future of the Baptist and the Independent bodies, was chiefly to be found in the multiplication all through the country of these union churches. Whether they were Baptists or Pædobaptists, they could all work in Christian faith and Christian fellowship. He felt a great interest in this matter, because it had been his happiness never to be the pastor of any but a union church. He never held, and with his present convictions never would hold, the pastorate of any Church the gate of which was not, as near as they could make it, as the gate of Christ's kingdom. (Applause.) And he could bear his testimony to the great practicability of the work of the union churches. He had been twenty-one years the pastor of a union church, and had never known an instance in which his distinct opinion had led to anything like bad feeling, alienation of his brethren, or the slackening of hands in Christ's work. Although there had been differences of opinion on the subject of baptism, they had never been permitted for one moment. He therefore rejoiced that there was here to be one more church founded upon what he believed to be the true Christian and apostolic basis.

Religious Intelligence.

STOKE NEWINGTON—ABNEY CHAPEL.—The Rev. William Spensley, who has been assistant minister to the Rev. John Jefferson, of Abney Chapel, Stoke Newington, has received and accepted a cordial invitation to the pastorate vacant by the retirement of Mr. Jefferson, after a ministry there of more than thirty-six years.

ESHER-STREET CHAPEL, KENNINGTON-LANE.—The tenth anniversary of the settlement of the Rev. J. Marchant as pastor of the people worshipping at Esher-street, was celebrated on Monday evening, July 1. After inspecting some class-rooms and a vestry recently erected, the party adjourned to the chapel. At seven o'clock the pastor took the chair, and gave a cheering report of the labours of the past year. There had been additions both to the church and congregation. The Sabbath-school was prospering. A Youth's Mutual Improvement Society had been established. The Maternal Society had ministered to some twenty poor mothers; while the other agencies of the church have been actively pursuing their evangelistic labours. Addresses in harmony with the occasion were delivered by the Revs. P. J. Turquand, J. S. Pearsall, J. Gill, G. M. Murphy, R. Berry, and Messrs. Nicholls, Allport, &c. The choir rendered efficient service. Stimulated by the generous offer of W. Trotman, Esq.—that if the whole cost of the new building was raised in two months, he would give 20l., and 5l. to the library—subscriptions were promised then and afterwards, which only leave 35l. to be raised.

CROSS-STREET, ISLINGTON.—An interesting meeting was held on Thursday night to celebrate the third anniversary of the pastorate of the Rev. Clement Bailhache at Cross-street Chapel, Islington. About three hundred persons were present. The pastor spoke of the success which had attended his labours, and of the encouraging state of the church. Mr. Cooper and Mr. Hurry addressed the meeting on the efforts that were being made to liquidate the debt upon the chapel. Mr. Kerr, secretary of the debt committee, read a report from which it appeared that the debt on the building was, two years ago, 1,500l. It had now been reduced to 900l., and the committee hoped that in the course of three years the whole of that sum would be cleared off. Addresses followed by Mr. Pratt, Mr. Barnard, Rev. J. T. Wigner, of New Cross, and the Rev. W. Guest, of Claremont Chapel. Subscription lists were sent round, and the sum of 125l. 19s. was promised by fifty persons, a

large number of persons preferring to send in the forms after a few days' interval. The meeting was of a friendly and congratulatory character, and the interest was well sustained.

STOKE NEWINGTON.—The Milton Congregational Church, Milton-road, Stoke Newington, was opened on Tuesday last week. At the morning service the Rev. Dr. Edmond offered the dedicatory prayer, and the Rev. H. Ribton Cooke, the pastor, the Rev. Dr. Raleigh, and the Rev. Clement Dukes, took part in the service. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Henry Allon. The church and congregation are a branch of Dr. Raleigh's church at Hare-court Chapel, Canonbury, and have been for more than two years worshipping in the schoolroom at Milton-road, under the pastoral care of the Rev. H. R. Cooke. Under his auspices the numbers have greatly increased, and a larger building become necessary. The edifice just opened is fitted up in a most artistic manner, and will seat 500 persons on the ground floor. There is a gallery over the entrance which contains a handsome organ and seats for fifty persons. The church has been erected at a total cost of 995l. In the afternoon after the inaugural service a large number of the congregation and friends took tea in the schoolroom, and a short meeting was held, over which the Rev. Dr. Raleigh presided. The treasurer, Mr. R. Sinclair, gave a detailed statement of the progress of the work at Milton-road from its commencement to the present time. He stated that the members of the church and congregation had been most liberal in their contributions, so much so that the handsome temporary church was not only paid for, but the committee had a balance of 100l. towards the permanent building. The chairman hoped they would be so successful in the forthcoming year that they would be able to go up to Hare-court and ask to be allowed to run alone and claim their independence. (Cheers.) The meeting then adjourned to the church for evening service, and the Rev. Dr. Raleigh preached an impressive sermon. The collections were devoted to the fund for establishing a day-school.

THE REV. ALBERT SMITH, late of New College, has received and accepted a cordial invitation to the pastorate of the Congregational church, Boxford, Suffolk.

THE REV. R. C. JESSOP, B.A., Buxton, has received and accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Congregational church, Huyton, Liverpool.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCKFIELD.—The first anniversary services of this place of worship were held on Wednesday, July 3rd. The Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B., preached morning and afternoon, and, with other ministers, addressed a public meeting which was held in the evening, under the presidency of the pastor, the Rev. Frederick S. Attenborough. The collection after the morning service amounted to 35l., and the entire proceeds of the engagements to 61l. On Sunday, July 7, the pulpit was occupied by the pastor in the morning, and in the evening by the Rev. R. V. Pryce, M.A., LL.B., of Brighton.

SUNNINGDALE, BERKS.—On Tuesday, July 2, the Rev. T. Slade Jones was publicly recognised as minister of the new Congregational church, Sunningdale. In the afternoon a most interesting service was held, in which the following ministers took part:—The Revs. J. F. Stevenson, LL.B., and Richard Bulmer, Reading; R. Willan, Egham; S. Eastman, Windsor; J. Ellis, Bracknell; J. F. Glass, Brentford; and G. H. Jackson, Twickenham. In the evening the Rev. R. D. Wilson, of Craven Chapel, London, preached to a large congregation. A public tea-meeting was held between the services, most liberally provided by the ladies of the congregation.

DRIFFIELD.—The services in connection with the opening of the new Congregational church commenced on Monday evening, June 24, on which occasion the Rev. James Parsons, of York, preached. On Tuesday afternoon a public tea was provided in the Assembly Room, to which a large company sat down. In the evening a public meeting was held in the new chapel, which was crowded. The chair was taken by Mr. John Crossley, of Halifax. A hymn having been sung, and prayer offered by the Rev. T. C. Crippin, the chairman offered some excellent suggestions as to a more just and judicious method of pew-renting, and recommended those paying more whose means could best afford it. The meeting was also addressed by the Rev. R. A. Redford, M.A., LL.B., of Hull; the Rev. Brewin Grant, B.A., of Sheffield; Mr. William Irving, of Hull; the Rev. J. Sibree, of Hull; and Mr. H. J. Paull, of Manchester. The building contains 600 sittings, and has cost nearly 1,500l., of which 900l. have already been subscribed. To make up the deficit of 600l., a loan of 300l. is expected to be obtained without interest, and an effort is to be made for paying off the remaining 300l. in two years. On the following Lord's Day two sermons were preached, in continuation of the opening service, by the Rev. J. Sibree, of Hull; and the Rev. Enoch Mellor, M.A., of Liverpool, preached on Tuesday. On the earnest recommendation of Mr. Crossley, the people are about to enter into engagements to discharge the debt remaining on the church, and he has promised to add another donation of 50l. towards the object.

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, PEMBROKE DOCK.—The above chapel, of which the Rev. E. L. Shadrach is pastor, was opened on June 28, when the Rev. E. Paxton Hood, of Brighton, preached morning and evening, and the Rev. D. Anthony, B.A., of Tenby, in the afternoon. Between the morning and afternoon services a cold collation was provided for the ministers and friends in the schoolroom. The opening services were continued on the following Sunday, the preachers being the Rev. Professor Morgan, of Carmarthen College, and the Rev. C.

Gwion, of Milford, there being present, and taking part in the services, the Rev. H. J. Morgans, B.A., Pembroke Dock, who offered the dedicatory prayer; the Rev. D. Salmon, Pembroke; the Rev. T. Davies, and the Rev. Moses Williams, C. M., Neyland; the Rev. J. Evans, B.A., Milford; the Rev. T. Wilde, W., Rev. J. D. Williams, B., and the Rev. N. Pascoe, P.M., Pembroke Dock; the Rev. J. M. Jones, Narberth; the Rev. J. Griffiths, St. Florence; the Rev. E. Griffiths, Templeton; Mr. Simonds, Springfield College; Mr. Lewis and Mr. Rees, Bristol College; Mr. W. Phillips, Richmond College. The architect is B. C. Sutton, Esq., of Nottingham, who has carried out the Gothic style of architecture in all its details. The building, which is 90 feet long by 60 feet wide, is capable of accommodating 1,225 persons; the basement is provided with a spacious schoolroom, capable of holding 600 children. The amount raised, including the proceeds of a bazaar, considered to be connected with the opening services, was about £360. The absence of the Rev. Joseph Williams, of Pembroke Dock, and of the Rev. James Williams, of Haverfordwest, in consequence of illness, was deeply regretted by all.

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, SMALL HEATH.—The commencement of this place of worship, to which the congregation has long looked anxiously forward, was celebrated by a simple ceremony on the 1st of July. A short prayer-meeting was held in the schoolroom at nine o'clock (where public worship had been carried on for nearly six years), under the presidency of the pastor, the Rev. S. Thodey Allen, to acknowledge God's goodness in bringing the people to that day through many difficulties, and to implore his continued blessing on the undertaking. A collection was then made, and the company walked out on to the site adjoining, which has an excellent frontage to the Coventry-road, to witness the cutting of the first sod by Mrs. Allen. Mr. Allen having received an elegant spade from the secretary of the building committee, presented it, on their behalf, to his wife, who performed her interesting duty in excellent style, in the presence of a numerous and sympathising assembly. An appropriate hymn having been sung, and the benediction pronounced, the proceedings were closed with hearty cheers for "The undertaking," "Mr. and Mrs. Allen," "The architect," "The builder," "The secretary," "The building committee," and "The church and congregation." Arrangements are being made for celebrating the laying of the memorial-stone, in August, with becoming effect, and it is expected that the chapel will be opened for public worship in March or April next. The architect is Mr. W. F. Poulton, of Reading, and the builder, Mr. Charles Jones, of Belmont-row. The total cost, including land, will be about £,000.

Correspondence.

DENOMINATIONAL UNION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Week after week I have read letters in your columns on the recent decision of the Congregational Union to admit to its membership certain parties whose opinions on the Sacrament of Baptism are not in harmony with the 18th article of the "Principles of Religion," sanctioned, with certain reservations and provisos, by the Congregational Union. Now, considering that probably not three Congregational ministers in England and Wales, whether "Pædobaptist" or "anti-Pædobaptist," consider baptism as in any sense "necessary to salvation," it seems a very extraordinary fact that this very harmless extension of the conditions of fellowship should have attracted more than a passing approval—as a thing of course, a matter that no Protestant Dissenter, and especially no Congregationalist, could ever hesitate about. On our side, at any rate, where can the difficulty be? The refusal of baptism to infants may be a symbolic protest against a certain doctrine of the Fatherhood of God. It may amount—and, in my judgment, does amount—to the assertion that nobody is a child of God until he is able to know God and to love Him, until he has been "converted" and has been brought to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. Now this seems to me an inversion of the Gospel; and nothing would induce me to join a society of which the refusal of baptism to infants was a condition of membership. But, for exactly the same reason, I could never vote for the exclusion from our Union of an earnest godly man because he is an "anti-Pædobaptist." If he doesn't mind, why need I? It is his creed that is modified, not mine; and my creed already affirms that both the little unbaptized babies and the ministers who refuse to baptize them, are members of the Divine family; and that the absence of baptism does not affect the thing signified itself, but only our knowledge or remembrance of the thing signified.

But it is a much more startling matter to find that the Congregational Union really has—or is coming to have—a doctrinal test; in spite of its endless protests against creeds, and its oft-repeated assurance that it is not, and will never consent to become, a court of appeal. A certain man, for instance (call him X), applies for admission to the Union. He produces his certificate, according to the second rule (see Year Book, 1867, page xii.). His church is Congregational, he is a Congregationalist; moreover he pays his subscriptions, and his people pay theirs. Why is he not admitted forthwith? Because his doctrine is first tested. The Union, or even the Committee of the Union, constitutes itself a court

ecclesiastical to determine X's orthodoxy, decides that he is not sound as touching baptism, and excludes him from fellowship. Now nothing can be more flatly opposed to the principles upon which the Union itself is founded. Doubtless the foundation can be changed, the constitution destroyed or amended. But this cannot be done decently by the mere indirect effect of a resolution on a matter of detail. To admit people into the Union means admitting them into the Union as it is; it cannot mean altering the Union itself. The Union was founded "on a full recognition of . . . the Scriptural right of every separate church to maintain perfect independence. . . . And, therefore, the Union shall not, in any case, assume legislative authority or become a court of appeal." It would have been quite easy to affirm the doctrinal independence of each church and pastor, but to have required for the Union itself, and for its members as such, some doctrinal test; at any rate of a simple and mildly exclusive character. But Nonconformists knew too well what tests are, and the Union emphatically declined any such mischievous folly. The "Declaration of Faith and Church Order" was prefaced by notes, explicitly affirming that its articles were to be received as an expression, in the judgment of the assembly sanctioning them, of the commonly received opinions of Congregationalists, and as nothing more. "It is not intended that the following statement should be put forth with any authority, or as a standard to which assent should be required." But what then is the ground for excluding an anti-Pædobaptist? There is no ground whatever even pretended for the exclusion except his inability to "assent" to Article 18 of "the Principles," and his being "required" to "assent" to them. Again—"disallowing the utility of creeds and articles of religion as a bond of union, and protesting against subscription to any human formularies as a term of communion, Congregationalists are yet willing to declare, for general information, what is commonly believed among them, reserving to every one the most perfect liberty of conscience." But what becomes of this boast, when X is excluded from the Union because he has his own view of the sacrament of baptism?

A year ago the Union refused, as such, to adopt a trust-deed, containing a doctrinal schedule, because such adoption would have been opposed to its fundamental principle. But now, so far even among us has the reaction in favour of authority as against liberty proceeded, that a resolution passes which quietly takes for granted that the declaration is a test, that the committee are the officers to apply it, and that they must not interpret a certain one of its articles to the exclusion of a certain limited number of "anti-Pædobaptists." What shall we come to next? For my own part, I believe in "the Atonement." Am I to be compelled to express my belief in the form of words contained in Article 10 of the Principles? Is the committee to decide whether my doctrine is substantially the same; and to retain or expel me in consequence? And are the committee to act only as they are moved from without, or are they to be the official prosecutors and inquisitors of the Congregational ministers who happen to be members of Union?

This would be a less serious matter if it affected the Union alone; but it is only a sign of the times—a symptom of that unquestionable reaction against liberalism which finds its completest expression in the "Ritualist" movement. Will the "Noncons" whose souls are so vexed by black gowns give a helping hand in this far more dreadful peril? A doctrinal trust-deed is far more fatal than a Popish mass, with all its gorgeous millinery. It is fatal to liberty; it is fatal to the authority of Scripture; it is fatal to our independence of state control; it is fatal to ministerial comfort, and may only too easily become fatal to ministerial honesty. It would be no very bold prophecy that every chapel with a doctrinal trust-deed will be in Chancery before this generation passes away. If the trust deed means nothing it is a childlike, even an immoral folly; and if it means something it is a torment to the conscience, and chiefly to the purest conscience. These are burdens that neither we nor our fathers have been able to bear.

But I have written more than enough, perhaps—meanwhile I have ever loved Congregationalism as the one English home of freedom; and I cannot bear, without a protest, to see that home turned into a prison-house.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,
WILLIAM KIRKUS.

Hackney, July 4, 1867.

CONFIRMATION, A MOCKERY, A DELUSION, AND A SNARE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—I do not like to think that your correspondent, "W. B. D.," wishes to throw dust into our eyes, but can hardly avoid the conclusion. He professedly desires the names of persons and places. I believe my name in full was appended to my first letter, as well as my residence and parish, and the assertion was that the things I deprecated had been transacted there. Your correspondent has read your journal to but little advantage if he has not had enough and more than enough of clerical intimidation. In his former letter your correspondent quoted approvingly the opinion of the *British Quarterly* as to Dr. Pusey's writings; will he kindly hear his so far chosen witness on this very theme of Episcopal "Trades Unionism"? In an article on "Church Botches" these passages occur:—"There are whole districts in our country from which every conscientious Nonconformist yeoman is being driven." And after giving many instances of petty tyranny on the part of certain landlords in the interests of the (so-called) Church of England, the writer says:—"Indeed, it seems clearly an axiom with some that drunkenness is a less evil than Dissent. In cases where the same disfavour is shown to the two, the allocation is often most insulting to the Nonconformist; as we have heard of one case in which the lease was forbidden by covenant to erect 'a public-house, a Dissenting chapel, a slaughter-house, or any other nuisance.'" He also gives, quoting from the Home Missionary Society's report, individual instances of attempted clerical coercion which I do not hesitate to call atrocious. In my own locality we are bounded by district parishes, where all kinds of clerical vagaries are carried out, money being begged by the clerics on the plea of the poverty of a district and

then simply applied to the folk who go—or who may be bribed to go—to the church to get it; while the other poor, however deserving or however necessitous, if they have the villainous hardihood to attend a conventicle, may starve and be insulted into the bargain. Not a hundred miles from Henley-on-Thames the cottage palings of the Dissenting poor are painted a different colour from those of the straitened orthodox inhabitants, lest the Church visitors should by mistake satisfy the hungry cravings of a schismatic maw. Considerably within the same distance of the parish of Bournemouth, where a friend of mine has been instrumental in erecting a very neat chapel, an opposition church has been erected. My friend, a tradesman who is wicked enough to add preaching to his other business, lives three miles away from his flock. Some short time ago a young person in the village was dangerously ill and very anxious about the salvation of her soul; my friend was not at hand, but the curate of the church was brought to her bedside, and on being told how anxious the sufferer was about her eternal state, he said, "But were you not baptized?" "Yes," said the sufferer. "And have you been confirmed?" said he who had the cure of a s. u. s. This was also replied to in the affirmative. "Then," said this extraordinarily gifted minister, "Don't cry; you're all right, you're sure to go to heaven"; and to the disgust at least of some of the persons who surrounded the bed, he left the cottage; happily there were those present, unordained and unconfirmed, who could point the dying sinner to the sinner's only hope.

If I had time, and you Sir, had space, it would be easy enough utterly to disprove your correspondent's notion that these things are but occasional exorcences and not the necessary concomitants of episcopacy, or at least of State-Churchism, and it would give as little trouble to show that the superstitions of Lincolnshire are to be matched in degree, if not in kind, in almost every county in England and Wales, and the priests love to have it so, and the landlords bear rule by their means.

I am not, nor do I wish to be, blind to the faults of Nonconformists. But our failings are our own; our system of worship is plain, simple, pure, based on the Divine Word; and in endeavouring to carry this on, the free religionist, alas! too frequently, has to incur odium, and robbery, and wrong. The marvel to me is that Dissenters from the Establishment, goaded and outraged as some of them are, do not more frequently commit themselves than they do; and however they manage to hold their own against the persecutions they and their people have to encounter from the State-supported clergy, is indeed a wonder. How marvellously meek, for instance, that holy man of whom Dr. Conybeare tells us in his *Church Essays*; he says, a clergyman with a friend was walking through the streets of a great manufacturing town, as they passed a large and ugly building, "How frightful," said his friend, "that St. Matthew's Church is!" "Church!" exclaimed the other, "is it a church? I always took it for a Dissenting chapel, and treated it as such. I hope I may be pardoned." "What do you mean?" inquired his friend, "by treating it as such?" "Why," replied the first, "whenever I pass a Dissenting chapel, I cross myself, spit upon the ground, and say, *Get thee behind me, Satan!*" Truly, but scant mercy would the Dissenting parishioner of such a holy man of God obtain!

I simply adduce this instance from the essay on Church Parties to show "W. B. D." that I do not take my "opinions at second-hand from the literature of one side"; indeed had I done so this controversy could never have been, for it originated through the reading of the Tractarian manifestoes. Tell me what is true, and if it be the truth of God I will thankfully receive it, from whatever source it comes. But to recur to the doctrine of confirmation. Will your correspondent oblige us by pointing to any one well-authenticated case in any part of England where the claimed importation of the Holy Ghost, and the gift of the seven-fold spirit of wisdom, by the imposition of the bishop's hands to any man, woman, or child, made any radical change in them.

"W. B. D." claims for the bishop the right of discrimination as exercised by the apostles. Will he favour us with any one instance where bishops have troubled themselves with any discrimination in the matter?

Can he give us any Scriptural instance of persons being brought to be confirmed by the apostles? or of any of those who were, being expected to learn a catechism of any kind before participating in the rite?

Further, will he point out to us, if he can, any proof of the doctrine of the "laying on of hands" being the same as that office now called by his Church, "confirmation"?

I must demur most thoroughly to the reply given to my inquiry, as to the threefold gift of the Holy Ghost by the different ecclesiastical manipulations enjoined in the Book of Common Prayer. Your correspondent says, "Churchmen believe that God the Holy Spirit gives this presence to the soul in gifts differing in degree or kind, at different times." That is very true; and it is what almost every Nonconformist believes. But the point turns upon what the bishop gives, and not upon the working of the Divine Spirit within us. In the catechism of the Committee of Clergy, and in the Book of Common Prayer, nothing is said about receiving a certain degree of spiritual influence; but the statements are dogmatic—"The Holy Ghost is given," and "Receive the Holy Ghost." Both when the bishop ordains a "priest" (so called), and when the archbishop ordains the same priest (should he attain to the episcopal office), the latter assertion is made. When, then, was this superiority, even to Divine power, bestowed upon the English hierarchy? What authority have we for these various bestowals of the Holy Ghost by human hands? And how comes it that in Edward the Sixth's time the right method of bestowing the gift was by anointing and making the sign of the cross; now altered to the crossing of the hands, or the depositing of a single episcopal index on the head; while the Roman Catholic bishop performs the same feat of legerdemain by giving each candidate a slap on the head.

Yours truly,
GEORGE M. MURPHY.

Finchley-road, E., July 4, 1867.

CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In my letter of last week which you were good enough to insert, there are two misprints which I should be much obliged to you if you would notice. In the third paragraph, "that right is certainly con-

ceded be all Angloians," should be "By all Angloians";
and in the last sentence, "gives this presence," should
be "gives His presence."
I am, yours faithfully, W. B. D.

CHESHUNT COLLEGE.

than 450 ministers engaged in the next hundred years.

The annual report, which was then read, stated that during the session of 1866-7 the numbers of the students, including those who at their own expense have been residing in the village and attending classes, had risen to thirty-two. Two of the students had come to the conclusion that God had not called them to the work of the ministry, one had been compelled to relinquish study from a failure of health, and another had departed under still less satisfactory circumstances. The settlements of the students had in some cases been highly gratifying to the friends of the college. During the past session no fewer than 1,630 services had been conducted, being an average of thirty-eight every Sunday, and 290 above the average of the previous seven years. Steady demands had been made upon their preaching list from the churches in the neighbourhood. With regard to the special work of the college, it was the testimony of the professors that in some departments a larger amount of work had been done than in many previous years. According to the custom of previous years the following lists indicated those students who in the various examinations held at Christmas and Midsummer had shown a thoroughly commendable result. By placing a name in the first division was meant that the student had obtained more than two-thirds of all the possible marks given in the examination of all the classes which he had been required to attend. To each student of this division a prize had been given—1. Mr. J. R. Mitchell, M.A.; 2. Mr. Henry Rice; 3. Mr. E. Wallis Jones; 4. Mr. Charles New; 5. Mr. Evans Meech. The following students have received certificates of honour for having obtained more than half of all the possible marks—1. Mr. Shirley Smith; 2. Mr. W. J. Coombe. Mr. Edwin Clarke. The following deserved honorable mention for the excellence with which they conscientiously done their work:—Mr. Stent, Mountain, Mr. Spong, Mr. Henry, Mr. Toller, Long, Mr. Stubbing. It was due to the first prize man to say that he had obtained more than 92 per cent. of the possible marks, and after passing six examinations received a first division in them. An additional interest had been thrown around examinations by the generous offer of Mr. Howat to confer £1. on the first elocutionist. President had resolved to offer a prize of a table book to the most successful junior student, reserving the £1. for competition among the seniors. The money prize was divided between Mr. Thomas and Mr. E. W. Jones, and the President's gift fell to the lot of Mr. W. J. Coombe. The committee were glad to announce that W. G. Soper had placed at the disposal of the President a donation of 20s., to be called the "Soper Theological Scholarship," and to be conferred on the most successful student. All who had obtained certificates of honour were eligible to the examination.

MR. WILKINSON, in proposing to

The Rev. G. WILKINSON, in proposing the first sentiment, "Thanks to the preacher of the day, rejoicings with the professors, congratulations to the prize-men, and best wishes for all the students," said that he was happy, as an old student of the college, to be present on so interesting an occasion. With regard to the principal, from the time he was appointed to that office his (Mr. Wilkinson's) heart rejoiced; for he felt satisfied that with such a man as Mr. Reynolds at the head of the college it was impossible that the institution could be anything but a success.

After a few remarks from the Rev. T. AVELING in responding to the sentiment,
The Rev. H. ALLON read a statement with regard to the finances of the college, which, he said, was only an approximate one, the financial year not having closed. It appeared that the year began with a balance in hand of £11. 15s. 6d., and there was a present balance against the college of 801. The total income up to the 26th of June had been 1,785l. 2s. 6d. This, he said, was a very serious tax. With regard to the anniversary, it was a very joyous occasion, to which they always looked forward with the greatest pleasure; but it involved an actual loss to the college of 40l. or 60l. a year. It had on several occasions been proposed to discontinue the anniversary din-

The Rev. J. R. RUSSELL proposed the next sentiment—"Regrets for the financial deficiency, and earnest hopes that this recommencement of an old trouble will be at once arrested."

trouble will be at once arrested." Mr. W. R. SPICER, in responding to the sentiment, took occasion to express the pleasure he felt in listening to Mr. Aveling's recommendation of extempore preaching. His pastor, Mr. Allen, had, he said, read his sermons, and as he read perhaps better than any other man in England, there was some little excuse for him. (Laughter.) As a rule, extemporaneous preaching was more effective than any written discourse could be. Barristers, when they wanted to impress a jury, did not read their speeches, but endeavoured to make their listeners feel what they were saying. It was very sad to think that the friends of the college were unable to meet without a loss of 40*l.* or 50*l.* to the institution. He hoped that some effort would be made to prevent it in future. His brother requested him to contribute 5*l.* towards meeting any deficiency, and he himself would be happy to add another 5*l.* (Applause.) He hoped that every effort would be made with regard to the new building. The time had arrived when something substantial should be done. 10,000*l.* was no doubt a large sum of money; but when they remembered the number of students who had been educated at the college at a very small cost to themselves, to their friends, and to the church, it was not a very large sum spreading it over the denomination to which they belonged. He should be willing to add 100*l.* to the first instalment paid to the builder, and 100*l.* to the last. (Applause.)

The Rev. W. GUEST briefly proposed the next sentiment—"All honour in its centenary year to the memory of our large-hearted founders. May we worthily celebrate their faith, and zeal, and benevolence!"

The Rev. J. Strong, in responding to the sentiment, said that the best way to honour the founders of the institution was by sustaining the object of their solicitude and their bounty, adding that he should be happy to double his subscription for future years.

The list of subscriptions already promised was then read by the Rev. Mr. ALLON, and the company separated.

After an interval of about half an hour, which was agreeably spent in the grounds, the prizes were distributed to the students, in the library, by the principal of the college. A number of friends assembled on the occasion. The students were loudly applauded as they came up to receive their prizes. Stimulated by the gentle pressure of Mr. Allon, several gentlemen unexpectedly found themselves put forward to make speeches, and even to offer additional prizes for the next year. A vote of thanks was passed to the professors of the college, and was briefly but warmly acknowledged by the Principal.

HACKNEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

The annual meeting of this College was held on Tuesday evening last at Falcon-square Chapel. Several friends of the institution partook of tea together previous to the meeting, and among those present were the Rev. S. M'All, theological tutor; the Rev. S. Ransom, classical tutor; the Rev. J. E. Richards, secretary; the Rev. J. Hall, the Rev. Dr. Tidman, the Rev. J. S. Wardlaw, the Rev. R. Ashton, the Rev. J. de Kewer Williams, the Rev. G. Spence. The chair was occupied by Mr. J. G. Stapleton. After a hymn of praise, the Rev. J. S. Wardlaw, M.A., read the Scriptures and offered prayer. The Rev. S. M'All, theological tutor, then read the report. After some prefatory remarks, the document noticed a very interesting inaugural meeting which had been held at the beginning of the session. The number of students during a considerable part of the year had been twenty-one, being more than the proper complement of the house. The number of missionary students had been four. One of the seniors having offered himself to the London Missionary Society towards the close of the third year. The committee had received very gratifying reports from the gentlemen who had conducted the annual examinations. [These were read to the meeting by the Rev. J. E. Richards, secretary.] The committee had selected as the subject of Homes' Jubilee Prize, "The Connection between Evangelical Creed and Holiness of Life." There had been four competitors—of whom Mr. Jackson received

The Rev. Dr. TIDMAN moved the adoption of the report. He said he could not do more than briefly move the resolution—he had no strength. He had not opened his mouth in public for eighteen months, and he was only present now in obedience to the wish of beloved friends, and through the love he cherished towards an institution in whose service he had been engaged more or less for half a century, and to which he owed the limited advantages he had enjoyed in his early days—advantages which he wished had been as large then as now. After some further remarks, the rev. doctor said he could not say more, but he felt that even if this were his last public service, he should like to give this last proof of his love to Hackney College. (Loud cheers.)

The Rev. Dr. SPENCE moved the second resolution, which recognised the claims of the college generally to increased sympathy and support. He said it was very gratifying that the students of Hackney College were sought after. The college recognised a few important principles. It recognised the principle of a stated Christian ministry. There was, perhaps, a tendency to disparage this in the present time,—to pooh-pooh ministers as men who could not preach. The college recognised the principle of a pious and converted ministry, and maintained also the principle of a teaching and preaching ministry. Finally, it recognised an educated ministry. It was folly to say that education spoiled a minister; the best preachers of the country had always been educated men. (Cheers.)

Addresses were also delivered by the Rev. J. Fielder, of Australia; the Rev. J. de Kewer Williams, and other friends.

KAWDON COLLEGE.

The annual meeting of the Northern Baptist Education Society was held at the college, Rawdon, on Wednesday, the 26th ult., at two p.m., the Rev. S. G. Green, B.A., president, being in the chair. The report was read by the Rev. J. P. Chown, of Bradford, secretary, from which it appeared that the number of students at the opening of the session was twenty-three; that of these six had left or were immediately about to leave, and that six new candidates had that morning been received on probation. The accounts given of the progress of the students, and of the state of the funds, were, on the whole satisfactory; as, however, although there had been no falling off in the subscriptions and collections, the expenditure of the institution was now greater than formerly. Among other donations to the library was noticed that of a collection of original letters by the celebrated essayist, John Foster, addressed to the late Mr. Horstall, and kindly presented to the college by Mrs. Wilkinson, the granddaughter of the latter. The adoption of the report was moved by the Rev. A. M. Stalker, of Southport, and seconded by the Rev. C. Short, M.A., of Sheffield. The Revs. W. Walters, of Newcastle, J. Bloomfield, late of London, now of Bradford, Dr. Acworth, of Scarborough, J. Webb, of London, C. Laron, of Sheffield, J. Hanson, of Huddersfield, G. B. Thomas, W. Best, B.A., of Leeds, and other gentlemen, successively proposed or seconded various other resolutions, under which a clever essay on Ritualism was read by Mr. Robert Cotton, and an excellent sermon on John i. 17, by Mr. Alfred North, both being students in the college. In the evening, at six o'clock, after devotional exercises conducted by the Rev. A. McLaren, B.A., of Manchester, an eloquent and most appropriate address to the students was delivered by the Rev. C. M. Birrell, of Liverpool. A vote of thanks to the lecturer was proposed by Dr. Acworth and carried with acclamation; proceedings being closed with prayer.

BURY COLLEGE.

The first annual meeting of the friends and supporters of this college, which was established on the 3rd October, 1866, was held on Monday afternoon week in a large marquee erected for the occasion on the grounds in front of Chamber Hall. There was a numerous gathering of ministers and gentlemen. The Rev. H. Dawson, president of the college, occupied the chair. The report stated that ten young men, earnestly recommended by the churches to which they belong, have been sustained during the whole or part of the session by the funds of this society. Of these eight had finished their examination have been received on the foundation. One of these having been under the care of the Rev. T. Dawson, of Liverpool, previously to the establishment of the college, still remains under tuition. The president has much satisfaction in giving his testimony to the piety, diligence, and exemplary Christian excellence of each and all of these young brethren. An important feature in the institution has been the continued exercise of the young men in evangelistic efforts. Weekly services have been regularly sustained in private houses, in the school-room connected with the Baptist chapel, and latterly in the open air, where large congregations, chiefly of working men, have assembled to hear "the words of this life." On the Lord's day, the students

have with slight exceptions been engaged as supplies in the counties of Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire. The demands upon the college for preachers have not unfrequently more than exhausted the means of supply, and other denominations besides the Baptist have availed themselves of the services of some of the students of this institution. The committee record with satisfaction the fact that sermons and addresses have been delivered during the session by the students, to the number of about 400. Dr. Evans, of Scarborough, had delivered a course of lectures on Church History, and Mr. F. Carson, of Salford, had gratuitously given lessons in stenography. The Rev. J. BLOOMFIELD moved the adoption of the report, and expressed his confidence in the institution. Mr. Councillor WHITEHEAD seconded the proposition. Mr. S. HOWORTH, treasurer, then read the financial statement, from which it appeared that the expenditure for the year had been 726*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*, and the income 918*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*, leaving a balance in hand of 192*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* The statement was received and passed with evident satisfaction. Votes of thanks were given the various officers of the institution. The proceedings closed with a discourse by Mr. W. H. INBERSON, one of the students, from 2 Cor. v. 21. After tea, a sermon was preached in the Baptist chapel, Knowsley-street, by the Rev. J. WEBB, of London, from Philippians i. 27.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE SONS OF MINISTERS.

On Tuesday last the annual examination and distribution of prizes of the above school was held at Lewisham. On the previous day the classical examination had been conducted by the Rev. J. S. Wardlaw, of Highgate, who expressed himself highly gratified with the thorough and painstaking character of the instruction imparted. On Tuesday the Rev. J. Russell, of Bayswater, conducted the English examination in the presence of a large number of visitors, all of whom were evidently struck with the correctness and readiness of the answers given to the thorough and searching questions proposed. At the close of the examination drill was performed in the playground, the evolutions being vigorously conducted by the sergeant and executed by the boys. After tea, which was served on the lawn, the Rev. George Martin, of Lewisham, was called to the chair, and the meeting commenced by the Rev. W. Gill, of Woolwich, offering prayer. After a few introductory words by the chairman, the head master, the Rev. Thomas Budd, B.A., gave an outline of the school work during the year, and, in a vigorous manner, detailed the past history and present position of the institution. Thanks were then moved by the Rev. Dr. Ferguson, seconded by the Rev. J. Pulling, to the examiners, and acknowledged by the Rev. J. S. Russell, who expressed himself greatly pleased with the afternoon's work. A vote of thanks to the hon. secretary, the Rev. J. Vinay, moved by the Rev. I. V. Mummery, seconded by Mr. W. Hitchin, was supported by a hearty round of cheers from the boys; and was acknowledged by that gentleman, who earnestly urged the claims of the institution on the ministers and friends present. Dr. Lockhart and A. J. Scrutton, Esq., then acknowledged the efficient services of the esteemed principal and Mrs. Budd, together with those of the assistant masters and Mr. Cochrane, who had kindly and gratuitously conducted the singing. The prizes were then distributed by the chairman, who addressed a few kind words to each recipient, especially to the eight boys who are leaving, and who were also presented each with a Bible. After thanks to the chair, and the doxology, the meeting separated, having evidently been deeply interested with the proceedings of the day. The numbers in attendance were greater than on any previous occasion, and the value and importance of the school as a thoroughly efficient one for the sons of our ministers was warmly and universally expressed. In the course of the evening the boys, under the guidance of their own chairman, Master J. S. Evans, who delivered an appropriate and vigorous address, recited and sang various selected pieces, much to the gratification of the company.

OUR FOREIGN VISITORS.

The Viceroy of Egypt arrived at Charing-cross station from Paris on Saturday night. His Highness was received at Dover by General Ellice, commandant of the garrison, and his principal officers; General Seymour, as representing the Queen; Mr. Larkin, the agent for the Egyptian Government; Colonel Stanton; and by Mr. Watkin, M.P., the Hon. J. Byng, Mr. Eborall, and Mr. J. Knight, on the part of the railway company. As the Viceroy stepped on shore the band of the 61st played the English national anthem, which the guard of honour presented arms. A short delay was made at the Lord Warden Hotel, where his Highness and suite took some light refreshments, starting again for London in the State carriages of a special train at half-past five. Only one stoppage was made en route, and that was to water the engine at Tunbridge. On the platform at Charing-cross were his Excellency Musurus Bey, the Turkish Ambassador, Lord Dudley, the Viceroy's host during his stay, several officers connected with the Turkish and Egyptian Governments, and the *attachés* of the Turkish Embassy in London. Two Royal carriages, with outriders, had been sent for the conveyance of his Highness and the chief members of his suite, and a Royal escort of the 3rd Hussars was drawn up on the open space outside the station. As the train stopped and his Highness alighted, Lord Dudley (who has placed his residence at the disposal

of the Pasha) advanced and warmly welcomed his Highness to this country. M. Musurus also offered his congratulations. In the first Royal carriage sat his Highness, with Nubar Pasha, Lord Dudley, and Colonel Stanton; the second conveyed three of the most distinguished members of the suite, with General Seymour. Two Egyptian officers returned with the Turkish Ambassador, and the rest occupied handsome private carriages sent by Lord Dudley. In the courtyard outside the station the Royal escort formed up in front and rear of the Viceroy's carriage, and on his getting into the Strand the assembled crowds cheered his Highness heartily. He wore a plain dark-blue single-breasted coat, with silk braid on the cuffs and collar, with an ordinary fez, that seemed almost too large for him. The Viceroy reached Dudley House before eight o'clock. Later in the evening, accompanied by Nubar Pasha and General Seymour, he went to the Italian Opera, at Covent-garden, to witness the performance of "Fra Diavolo." The party occupied the Royal box.

The Viceroy of Egypt went on Monday on a visit to the Queen at Windsor. He was accompanied by the Prince of Wales, and had an enthusiastic reception at the royal town. The Viceroy dined with her Majesty, and remained at the Castle for the night.

On Monday next, by command of the Queen, the Prince of Wales will visit the Royal Italian Opera, Covent-garden, in State. This Royal visit will be in honour of the Sultan, who will accompany the Prince of Wales to the Opera. It is intended that the Sultan shall be received in the Floral Hall, the State procession passing through the hall to the Royal box, which will be placed in the centre of the Opera-house.

The Belgian Volunteers, numbering over 2,000, are expected to arrive at Gravesend to-morrow, in the troopship *Serapis*, which has been sent to bring them across the Channel. Thence they will be brought up the river in steamboats, which will land them at the wharves nearest to their lodgings. On Friday morning they will be assembled at some place of rendezvous in the west end, and thence marched to the Guildhall, where they will be received by the Lord Mayor and Corporation, who have resolved to entertain the entire number at a *déjeuner*. The same evening there will be a *soirée* at South Kensington. On Saturday they will be received at Wimbledon by the Prince of Wales. They will be left in the full enjoyment of individual liberty during Sunday. On Monday, the 16th of July, there will be a procession on the river and a *fête* at Cremorne in the evening. On Tuesday, the 16th, an excursion will be made to Windsor. On Wednesday, the 17th, it is probable there will be a visit to the Crystal Palace. The grand ball at the Agricultural Hall, under the patronage of the Princess of Wales, the Princess Louis of Hesse, and a number of the most distinguished ladies in England, will be held on the evening of Thursday, the 18th. On Friday, the 19th, there will be the *fête* at Miss Burdett Coutts', and a concert at the Agricultural Hall in the evening. On Saturday, the 20th, the visit will be brought to a close by the presence of the Belgians at the review at Wimbledon.

A correspondent of the *Indépendance Belge* says that the Empress of the French replied to an invitation from Queen Victoria to come over for the naval review at Spithead, that in consequence of the death of the Emperor of Mexico, she felt bound to decline the invitation. To this it is said Queen Victoria rejoined that she fully appreciated the Empress's feelings, but nevertheless hoped she would come, and after the review spend a few days in quiet and seclusion at Osborne. To this latter proposition the writer says up to Sunday no answer had been returned.

This evening the Earl and Countess of Derby will give a banquet to the Viceroy at his lordship's official residence in Downing-street. The Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, and Princess Mary Adelaide and the Prince of Teck have accepted invitations to meet his Highness the Viceroy at dinner. The Countess of Derby will have an assembly later in the evening in compliment to the illustrious stranger.

His Highness will also be entertained by the City Corporation, by the United Service Club, and the Duke of Sutherland intends to give a magnificent *fête* in his honour at Stafford House.

The Sultan will leave Paris for London on Thursday. He will be lodged in Buckingham Palace. His Majesty will be present at the naval review on the 17th, and he will possibly be present at the ball in the Agricultural Hall on the 18th. The rifle-shooting at Wimbledon Common will probably challenge a visit; and the postponement of the review in Hyde Park for a fortnight seems to render that spectacle also available. For the banquet in the City the most active preparations are already going forward; and it is said that the managers of the Crystal Palace will offer his Majesty a public reception. Preparations on an extensive scale are proceeding at the new India Office, St. James's Park, for a ball to be given to his Majesty on a scale of great splendour. It is reported that the Empress of the French will be present at the naval review.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

LONDON UNIVERSITY.—The Honourable George Brodrick, LL.B., whose name was submitted to the Liberal committee by Mr. Grant Duff, M.P., and Mr. Farrar, of Harrow, has withdrawn his name in a courteous and dignified letter addressed to the chairman of the Liberal committee. Mr. Brodrick, who graduated at Oxford, and only took a law degree in the University of London, admits the disadvantage which his closer association with the older University would be to him in a constituency naturally jealous of its own peculiar characteristics; but

says that as regards political qualifications to represent the younger University, an intimate knowledge of the older University would have rather added to, than detracted from, his means of doing justice to the constituency. Sir John Lubbock, who contested West Kent with great spirit in the Liberal interest in 1865, has been put forward by Mr. Carey Foster, B.A., and Dr. Odling, F.R.S., graduates of the London University, as a candidate, specially uniting the scientific and political attainments desirable in the representative of a scientific university's constituency. Dr. Odling and Mr. Carey Foster make it a point in his favour that "Sir John Lubbock, not being a graduate of our University (or indeed of any other), we should, by proposing him, avoid the otherwise inevitable difficulty of appearing to act on behalf of any one section of our brother graduates." A requisition has been presented to J. R. Quain, Esq., Q.C., by a number of graduates of the London University, requesting him to consent to be nominated; and the learned gentleman has consented on condition that he may be at liberty to concur in any measure which it may be deemed expedient to take in order to prevent a division in the Liberal party. The other candidates are Mr. Lowe, M.P., Mr. Walter Bagehot, the well-known political writer, and Dr. Wood, whose claims we have noticed elsewhere in these columns. The Conservatives do not appear to be pressing the claims of Mr. E. N. Fowler.

CHELSEA.—Sir Henry Ainslie Hoare, Bart., has issued an address to the inhabitants of the proposed new Parliamentary borough of Chelsea and Kensington, offering his services as their representative. He proclaims his deep and entire devotion to the real Liberal party of England, and his faith in Mr. Gladstone. He believes that the Government Reform Bill will prove a substantial gain to the people. He is in favour of the abolition of Church-rates, and of the removal of all impediments and instructions to the opening of the universities to members of all religious denominations. He holds it to be of the first importance that, as the liberties of the country will shortly rest upon a suffrage as widely extended as any that the States of America or Prussia have ever known, the same cheap, diffusive, and compulsory State education should be within the reach of Middlesex or Lancashire as exists in Massachusetts or Silesia. Sir Charles Westworth Dilke has also issued an address to the electors. He would be prepared to support a bill for increasing the representation of large boroughs, and considers that a definite settlement of the Irish Church question is clearly one of the first steps towards a healthier condition of affairs. He is in favour of non-intervention in foreign politics, except where either the dignity or interests of the country are at stake, and he regrets at once the rashness shown in the guarantee of Luxemburg, and the timidity which has characterised our proceedings in the case of the British captives in Abyssinia. He is opposed to flogging in the army and to the purchase of commissions, and in favour of a separate army for India. Enactments intended to reconcile the interests of capital and labour would receive his best attention, and he would support the erection of suitable homes for working men. As a Cambridge man, he speaks a word for university reform; and, as a student of economy, expresses his distrust at the working of the Bank Charter Act of 1844.

BRISTOL.—Sir Morton Peto, Bart., having intimated his intention of resigning his seat, a portion of the Liberals have requested Mr. Edgar Bowring, second son of Sir John Bowring, to hold himself in readiness to come forward for the vacant seat. The Mayor of Bristol (Mr. E. S. Robinson), however, has announced his intention to offer himself, and his worship has found many supporters. The Liberal Registration Association have decided to endeavour to avoid a division in the party by requesting Sir Morton Peto to retain his seat for the present. The Conservatives held a meeting on Saturday, at which it is said that it was resolved to bring forward a member of the Miles family. Another statement is that they will support Mr. Bowring.

MANCHESTER.—The Manchester branch of the Reform League have, in conjunction with the leading trades unionists of that city, resolved to nominate Mr. Ernest Jones as a candidate for the third seat which Manchester will possess under the Government Reform Bill.

MERTHYR.—Mr. Richard Fothergill has issued his address to the electors of this borough as a candidate for the second seat conferred by the new Reform Bill. Mr. Fothergill declares himself a Liberal, a supporter of the ballot, and in favour of the absolute abolition of taxation on all the necessities of life. He will vote for the entire abolition of Church-rates, and for the removal of all disabilities which prevent Nonconformists from attaining the highest positions at the Universities. As to international disputes, he is in favour of settling them by arbitration.

EXECUTION OF THE EMPEROR MAXIMILIAN.

All doubt as to the execution of Maximilian is swept away. An Atlantic telegram of the 3rd brought the official confirmation of the news stating that the Emperor and Generals Miramon and Mejia had been shot. The telegrams received in Vienna state that the unfortunate Prince was shot at seven o'clock on the morning of the 19th of June, and they add that Juarez refused to give up the body. Before this news was received, every continental Power had joined with Austria in urging clemency towards Maximilian. England, too, joined in the representa-

tion, the Queen backing it with some strongly affectionate words of her own. How Mr. Seward backed up these representations we all know. However, they have been unavailing. Questions were asked on the subject in both Houses of Parliament on Thursday night. In the Commons the discussion on the Reform Bill was interrupted by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in order that he might state that official confirmation of the news of the execution had been received, and that in consequence the review in Hyde Park fixed for Friday had been postponed for a few days. In Paris the Court had gone into mourning.

In Vienna, very naturally, the deepest grief pervades the Court. The *Svenskan Mercury* states that the news of the Emperor Maximilian's death at the Munich railway-station produced a terrible effect on the Emperor Francis Joseph. His Majesty was seen to weep bitterly.

According to the *Independence Belge*, the French Government are preparing the publication of documents in order to prove that the clerical party in Mexico are really responsible for the fate of Maximilian, and that the Emperor Napoleon used every effort to induce Maximilian to leave Mexico with the French troops, and that consequently he has no direct responsibility for the sad fate that has befallen him. It appears that the unfortunate Emperor was actually on his way to the coast with his baggage ready for embarkation when an emissary of the priests overtook him, and by specious promises induced him to return and place himself again at the head of the clerical party.

The following letter, dated Queretaro, May 20, gives some details of the betrayal of the unfortunate Maximilian:—

The principal defence of this town consists in the vast convent of La Cruz, situated at the south and on the side of the city of Mexico. This building, a relic of the splendours of the Spanish domination, is constructed of stone and adobe (bricks hardened by the sun); a part of its enclosure is, besides, protected by earth entrenchments. The convent covers, with its dependencies, more than ten acres of ground, and forms a citadel on which siege artillery only could make any impression. Such, five days ago, was the principal position of Maximilian, who for some time had made it his headquarters. Immediately opposite, in the Corretas Mountains, the Mexican General Escobedo was established, and his advanced guard occupied the valley which separates La Cruz from the Corretas. In the night of May 14 there was a council of war in the town. The Imperialist army had exhausted all its supplies, and was likely to be soon reduced to the last extremities. As flour was wanting, the Intendence every day caused to be slaughtered a certain number of horses and mules which there was no means of feeding from want of provender. Even this resource threatened to fail before long, and for that reason Maximilian resolved on attempting a vigorous sortie, and opening for himself a passage through the enemy's lines. At eleven o'clock the troops were under arms, and the artillery in position; everything was ready for attack. But at the last moment, in consequence of the slow movements of his generals, the Emperor found himself obliged to countermand the expedition. Already at that moment the army had been sold to the enemy. The fort of La Cruz was to have been occupied an hour later by the troops of the Liberals. It was notorious that there was a considerable number of persons in the ranks of the Imperialists disposed to give up the town; but who would ever have suspected the colonel of the Regiment of the Empress, the keeper of the key of Queretaro, the commander of the fort of La Cruz Miguel Lopez himself? He was the man who, in the evening of the 14th, sent to Escobedo a letter in which he offered to betray his companions in arms for 3,000 ounces of gold (48,000 dol.). Escobedo naturally did what any other general would have done in his place—he accepted the proposal. Towards midnight the advanced guard of the Liberals, protected by the darkness, left the camp, and arrived without noise before the convent. Colonel Lopez, ordering the soldiers to ground their arms, opened the gates to the enemy. From that moment the Emperor Maximilian, who was sleeping tranquilly in another part of the building, was irretrievably lost. At the first gleam of the morning, the Archduke was on foot, and immediately perceived that some extraordinary event had taken place. Rousing up the Prince of Salm-Salm, his aide-de-camp, Maximilian directed his steps towards the outer enclosure of the convent, but had scarcely advanced a few steps when he was surrounded by a detachment of soldiers commanded by Colonel Kingston Gallardo. Lopez himself accompanied the detachment, and pointed out the Emperor to the troops, crying out, "That is the man—seize him." A curious incident then occurred. Colonel Gallardo, a brave soldier, who did not seem exactly to relish the treachery of Lopez, stepped up to Maximilian, and said to him, "You are a private person, and not a soldier; we have nothing to say to you, go about your business." With these words he pushed his Majesty outside the convent. Five minutes later he met Maximilian, who seemed to have not yet recovered from his surprise. He was walking as fast as possible towards Cerro de la Campana, at the other extremity of the town. This position is a fortified hill commanding the northern part of the place. On his arrival there he was joined by Generals Mejia, Castillo, and Avellano, the Prince de Salm-Salm, and several others of his officers; but it soon became evident that any resistance was impossible. Four battalions of infantry and all the Liberal cavalry were surrounding the Cerro. The white flag was then hoisted, and the Archduke with all his staff surrendered to General Corona. The prisoners were allowed to retain their horses, arms, and personal effects; and a few hours later they were conducted to the convent of La Cruz. The first companies of the Mexican advanced guard which had entered the town committed some excesses; several houses were pillaged and some persons rifled in the streets, but immediately after the arrival of the general officers order was re-established. On the whole, fewer acts of violence were perpetrated than might have been expected.

A subsequent letter from Queretaro, dated May 25, contains the following:—

From the convent of La Cruz the Prince was conducted, with his officers, to that of Santa Teresita, where

they were placed in rooms devoid of all comfort. During three or four days they slept on the bare ground, and their food was very insufficient. The arrival of the Princess de Salm-Salm and her attendances with Escobedo had the effect of ameliorating the condition of the prisoners. They were transferred to another convent, that of Las Capuchinas, and they are now permitted to receive from their friends provisions, wine, and clothing. The adventures of the Princess de Salm-Salm would form a strange chapter in a romance. Twice did she traverse the Liberal lines to reach the capital and return from it, and on two occasions was fired at by the Mexican sentries. She was afterwards detained prisoner for two days at Gadalupe by General Diaz for having distributed money to the German captives at that place. She at length obtained a passport, authorising, or rather ordering, her to proceed to the coast and quit the country. But with that passport she made her way to Queretaro and San Luis during the siege of the first-named town. She was accompanied by only one female Mexican servant. Subsequently she had interviews with President Juarez and General Escobedo to intercede in favour of Maximilian and her husband. It is said that the Archduke wept like a child on hearing a narrative of the heroic peregrinations of this courageous lady.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

On Saturday the Queen came to London, and honoured Miss Nightingale with a visit, and also honoured Baron Marochetti with a visit to his studio. Her Majesty afterwards visited the Princess of Wales at Marlborough House, and then returned to Windsor Castle.

Dean Alford preached before the Queen in the private chapel at Windsor Castle on Sunday.

The present and past officers of Grenadiers, to the number of seventy, entertained the Prince of Wales on Saturday at dinner at the Trafalgar, Greenwich.

By command of the Queen the Court has gone into mourning for three weeks, commencing on Sunday, for his late Majesty the Emperor of Mexico.

According to present arrangements the Queen and the Royal family will leave the Castle for Osborne on Saturday, the 13th inst.

The Princess of Wales drove in the Park on Saturday, and was warmly received by the public. Her Royal Highness, it is stated, does not bear the signs of illness which might have been expected from her long confinement within doors.

The Queen of Prussia concluded her visit to the Queen yesterday, and left for Dover en route to Brussels.

It is reported that her Majesty intends next year to hold drawing-rooms in person.

The review which was to have been held in Hyde Park, and was postponed in consequence of the official news of the Emperor Maximilian's death, has, according to the *Morning Post*, been abandoned altogether.

The *Sunday Gazette* thinks that Parliament may be prorogued on the 17th of August.

Towards the close of last week, while the Royal household and domestics were at prayers in the private chapel at Windsor Castle, one of the pages, a young man, suddenly rushed from his seat into the aisle, and exclaimed with great energy, "It's all a mystery," or words to a similar effect. He then ran from the chapel, but was secured, and it was found that the poor fellow had gone mad. The Queen was not present.

The Queen has commanded (says the *Owl*) that the "Life of the Prince Consort" should be forthwith undertaken, and to the pen of Mr. Theodore Martin, the translator of Goethe's ballads, her Majesty has committed the task.

The *Times* is authorised to state that Dr. Lushington, owing to his serious illness, resigned his offices of Judge of the Admiralty and Dean of the Archies on Monday week. Dr. Lushington is in his eighty-fourth year, and with Lord Brougham the only counsel alive who defended Queen Caroline. The appointment will be conferred either on Sir Robert Phillimore, the Queen's Advocate, or Mr. Brett, Q.C., M.P.

Mr. Hepworth Dixon has, it is said, been offered the honour of knighthood, and has declined it.

The death is announced of Sir W. Lawrence, Bart, F.R.S., Serjeant-surgeon to the Queen.

Mr. Welch, late Registrar of the District Court of Bankruptcy at Leeds, died on Saturday morning at Yaxley Hall, Eves.

Mr. W. Giffard Palgrave, the author of recent "Travels in Central Arabia," who has been appointed acting consul at Trebizond, is staying with Lord Lyons at Therapia.

It is proposed to make the House of Commons oval instead of square; to place the Treasury bench and the front Opposition bench in the middle of the Chamber; to set back the Speaker's chair; and to throw into the body of the Chamber the seats now reserved for peers and distinguished "strangers."

THE GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY.—It is announced that Mr. Laing, M.P., has retired from the Great Eastern Railway, and on Tuesday Vice-Chancellor Malins appointed the chief officer and secretary of the Company receivers in Chancery. At a meeting of the preference shareholders of the company, held on Wednesday, the directors recommended that the shareholders should renew, in the present session, an application for powers to raise the necessary capital to meet the debts against the company. The sum required would be three millions, of which two and a half were due on debts for which the company might be sued at once. It was decided to appoint a committee to confer with the directors on the subject.

GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL, CALEDONIAN-ROAD, ISLINGTON, N.—Number of patients for the week ending July 6, 1,025, of which 219 were new cases.

Postscript.

Wednesday, July 10, 1867.

MEXICAN AFFAIRS.

The *Moniteur du Soir* publishes the following news from Mexico to July 1st:—"The execution of the Emperor Maximilian is confirmed. The city of Mexico capitulated on the 21st ult. No fears were entertained as to the personal safety of the French Legation, who were still in Mexico. The town of Vera Cruz was occupied on the 27th ult. The foreign troops were permitted to embark without being molested by the military."

In yesterday's sitting of the Legislative Body the Mexican question was discussed. M. Thiers, after proclaiming the advantages of a limited monarchy, said:—"This is the form of monarchy towards which we must advance as speedily as possible in the interest of the Government and the country." Perfect stillness prevailed in the Chamber during his speech. M. Granier de Cassagnac defended the Mexican expedition. M. Jules Favre stated that the real idea of the expedition was the subversion of the Mexican republic, and the establishment of a throne in Mexico, but this intention had been concealed by the Government. The French troops ought to have brought back Maximilian, and thus have saved France from the stain of blood which will rest upon her. (Noisy interruptions.) M. Rouher protested strongly against the words of M. Favre.

LAST MOMENTS OF MAXIMILIAN.

Long accounts are already given of the execution of the Emperor Maximilian; and the following letter to the Empress Charlotte, written just before the tragic event, has also obtained publicity:—

My dearly beloved Charlotte.—If God one day permits your recovery, and you read these lines, you will learn the cruelty of the ill-fortune which has unexpectantly pursued me since your departure for Europe. You took with you all my chance and my soul. Why did I not listen to your counsel? So many events, alas! so many sudden blows have broken all my hopes, that death is for me a happy deliverance, and not an agony. I fall gloriously, as a soldier—as a king, vanquished but not dishonoured. If your sufferings be too great—if God call you speedily to rejoin me, I will bless the Divine hand which has so heavily pressed upon us. Adieu, Adieu!

YOUR POOR MAX.

THE EMPRESS CHARLOTTE.

Accounts from Miramar respecting the Empress Charlotte state that all hope of recovery seems to have vanished. The *Morgenpost* says, "The mental alienation has now attained to such a pitch that the unhappy Princess cannot be left alone for an instant, and has several times attempted her life. Two recent attempts of this kind were fortunately prevented by the watchfulness of Dr. Slek, who has the august patient under his care. Nevertheless, the Empress is occasionally, for a few moments at a time, in full possession of her faculties. In one of those lucid intervals lately she said, 'I do not desire to live any longer; death is preferable to such an existence; then, after a short pause, she asked, 'Where is my husband? Shall I never see him more? No, no; he is dead, and I am still left in the world.' Scarcely a quarter of an hour passes that the Empress does not ask for news of the Emperor Maximilian. The physical condition of her Majesty also inspires very serious alarm."

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the Commons, Mr. LOCKE moved a new clause to provide that the overseer should give notice to the occupier in case a rate made on or before the 6th of January should remain unpaid on the 1st of June. After some discussion, it was agreed to be read a second time; and some amendments were moved by Mr. HANBY, and inserted, to be considered on the report. Several clauses on the paper were withdrawn, and the schedules and preamble of the bill passed through committee, and it was arranged that the report should be taken at a morning sitting on Friday.

DEATH OF MR. SCHOLEFIELD, M.P.—(By TELEGRAPH.)—BIRMINGHAM, TUESDAY EVENING.—Intelligence was received here from London this evening of the death of Mr. Scholefield, M.P. for this borough. He was first nominated on the death of his father, in 1844, but was defeated by Mr. Spooner, the nomination of the late Mr. Sturge having caused a disunion amongst the Liberal party. At the election in 1847 he was returned in conjunction with Mr. Muntz, and has been returned from that time uninterruptedly to his death. Mr. Scholefield was highly esteemed by all classes in the borough, irrespective of party.—*Daily News*.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

The weather during the last few days having been satisfactory, the crops have made fair progress towards maturity, and there appears no reason to doubt that the yield this year will be a full average one. The trade to-day was greatly wanting in activity, and although the arrivals were limited, but little disposition was shown to purchase on the parts of the few buyers in attendance. Whilst at the same time prices generally were nominally unaltered. Coastwise as well as by rail, the show of English wheat was limited. Both red and white parcels, however, were difficult to dispose of, at about the rates current on Monday. The market was well, but not to say heavily, supplied with foreign wheat. In all descriptions sales progressed slowly, on former terms. For floating cargoes the trade ruled quiet, at late rates. The supply of barley was limited; nevertheless, the demand was heavy, at previous quotations.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"G. P. Jarvis."—Next week.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 1867.

SUMMARY.

THE Reform Bill has at last passed through Committee, and it remains only for the Report to be brought up and considered, and for the Bill to be read a third time before it is sent up to the House of Lords. It is not expected that they will keep it long nor seriously modify its provisions.

We are entering upon a period of something like national festivity at a grave political crisis. Before the Reform Bill has been finally disposed of in the Commons, and while it has yet to be considered by the Upper House, a succession of *fiets* has been arranged which will sorely test the patriotism and self-denial of our governing bodies. The Pasha of Egypt is amongst us, and has been received with a distinction befitting his rank and the obligations under which he has laid the British nation for keeping open the route to India. To-morrow the Belgian volunteers will make their return visit to England, and great preparations have been made to give them a cordial welcome to our shores. Next the Sultan will claim the hospitality of the British nation, and reviews, receptions, banquets, and balls are the order of the day. With so elaborate a programme of gaiety as has been cut out for next week, it is not easy to see how the work of legislation is to make much progress, or how the House of Lords will enter heartily on the consideration of a reform of the constitution. Not till the middle of August is the Session likely to be brought to a close.

The death of the Emperor Maximilian has put a stop to the festivities at Paris, and plunged the Court of Napoleon III. into grief and mourning. No heavier blow could fall upon the French Sovereign at a time when his European prestige as the hospitable entertainer of Sovereigns and Princes was at its height. The brilliant success of the Exhibition has received a check, and France feels that her powerful monarch is capable of folly, and that his schemes of ambition may result in egregious failure.

The inquiry into the Sheffield trade outrages has terminated, and it is some satisfaction to find that, though Broadhead and the other chief criminals have received certificates for indemnity, they have not been allowed their costs. Sheffield is now relieved of the system of terrorism to which she has for many years been subject, and we trust that trades-union tyranny and outrage in that town are now at an end. There is good reason to hope that the mass of the Sheffield artisans have been entirely guiltless in the matter, and it is satisfactory to find that they have had an opportunity of expressing their opinions. On Monday, in response to an invitation by the Rev. W. R. Sainton, there was an immense gathering of working-men in Paradise-square. The faithful address of the rev. gentleman was listened to with great attention, and his reprobation of the crimes by which the town has been disgraced elicited great applause. A resolution was cordially adopted, expressing shame and horror of the deeds which have been lately brought to light, and pledging the citizens of Sheffield "to do all in their power to redeem the character of the town, which, by the misguided and wicked acts of some of its inhabitants, has been brought under bitter reproach." Such meetings as this will

help to create that moral opinion in the town which will make impossible such deplorable events as have been investigated by the Commissioners.

The full accounts received from Rome describe the grand ceremonies which have taken place there as having surpassed in magnificence any previous event of the kind in the history of the Papacy. It seems, however, that the Ultramontanists, led by Archbishop Manning, have not been allowed to have it all their own way. The address of the five hundred bishops in reply to that strange farrago delivered by Pius IX., which is called an allocution, was comparatively moderate. In Dr. Manning's draft, the denunciation of Russia, the severe censures on Victor Emanuel, and the praise bestowed upon the Romans for their attachment to the Holy See, were struck out, even the English bishops voting against their head. The Archbishop left Rome discouraged and crestfallen. Subsequently, however, on receiving a deputation to present a costly album, containing addresses of devotion from a "hundred Italian cities," Pius IX., unmindful of the moderation of his bishops, denounced the efforts that are made in Italy to constitute "a unity without charity, without justice, a unity cursed by God," to which his auditors responded by cries of "Yes, cursed, cursed." Such an incident as this will produce no small impression in Italy. Already the drastic measure of the Chambers for dealing with ecclesiastical property and reducing the bishoprics, has been substantially accepted by the Government, and "No compromise with Rome" will be the Italian cry which will follow the demonstrations of the Vatican against Italian unity.

It seems that we are going to war with the brutal Sovereign of Abyssinia for the liberation of the British captives he still retains in custody. An ultimatum has, it is said, been sent to the Emperor Theodoros, demanding the release of his victims on pain of a declaration of war, and instructions are reported to have been given to the Commander-in-Chief in India to hold a certain number of troops ready for this service. We trust these rumours are unfounded. Such a war would be not unlikely to prove disastrous to our troops, without effecting the object in view. The Abyssinian potentate can deride our threats, and place himself out of reach of our arms. Why should our soldiers be sacrificed by wholesale in that hostile and inaccessible country in a Quixotic expedition which is almost sure to fail? It is not many months since the papers which are now demanding war with the Emperor Theodoros were asking the same question.

LAND IN SIGHT.

THE Committee of the House of Commons on the Representation of the People Bill is nearing the close of its protracted labours. All the proposed new clauses have been disposed of, some of them by withdrawal, most of them by rejection, and a very few of them by adoption. The redistribution scheme of the Government remains in outline what it was when modified in consequence of the success of Mr. Laing's motion. By that motion, it will be remembered, the additional seats placed at the command of the Committee, or more properly of Mr. Disraeli, as the chief representative of the Administration in the House, brought the number up to forty-five. One of them has been given to the London University, two of them to the Tower Hamlets, and two to the newly created borough of Chelsea, a second number has been given to Salford and Merthyr Tydvil, a third to Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, and Birmingham, and nine new boroughs have been enfranchised in the north, which will be represented in Parliament by a single member each, while the rest of the disposable seats have been assigned to the more populous counties. Excepting Great Yarmouth, Lancaster, Totnes, Reigate, convicted of inveterate bribery, no borough has been wholly disfranchised, however insignificant. The last serious struggle took place on Monday night, when the House by a narrow majority confirmed Mr. Disraeli's decision that the additional member given to the four largest boroughs should be taken from four places to which a representative had been promised—Luton, Keighley, Barnsley, and St. Helen's. The schedules now remain to be got through; but as the principles on which they are framed have been already settled, and no modification of their details can be forced upon the Government, they will probably be got through with a run, and the Report presented to the House before the close of the week.

Substantially, then, we see the Reform Act of 1867. Land is in sight, and the vessel of the constitution, after a long and stormy pas-

sage, during one period of which it was feared she would founder, will very shortly be safe in port. What, then, shall we have got as the result of popular agitation? Both more and less than we anticipated—more in respect of the franchise, less in respect of the redistribution of seats.

No one, in the wildest flight of his imagination, would have predicted at the opening of the present Session—no one would have believed in the possibility of the adoption of household suffrage by the present House of Commons. Probably there were not fifty members of the House who desired it. The Liberal leaders looked upon it as impracticable, as indeed it was at the commencement of the contest. Ministers of State indignantly denied that it had any place in the Bill which the Government had introduced. The principle of the measure—the payment of rates as the condition of a vote—was pitched upon, and tenaciously adhered to, obviously enough to confer a claim on thousands of householders to electoral privileges upon terms which would render the claim practically unavailing. The Liberals protested against an illusory offer—the Conservatives objected to a "hard and fast line." Suddenly, no one can say precisely why, both parties surrendered the object for which they had respectively contended, and agreed to keep the principle of the Bill, but effectually knock away the chief obstacle to its full operation. The consequence is, that the question of the suffrage is placed beyond the reach of further controversy for a generation or two to come. There will be no more popular agitation of that subject in our time. It was fear of the people which staved off Parliamentary Reform for so many years. It was the dread that an inch given would be an ell taken, which paralysed the House in reference to the whole matter. Last year, Mr. Lowe was applauded with frantic delight when he argued against quitting the existing for any lower qualification on the ground that any change of the figure for a lower one must be the stepping on to a glissade in which there could be no pause until the bottom of it was reached. The bottom has been reached, but not by a glissade. Mr. Disraeli, proposing to himself to conduct the House to a safe resting-place very far short of the bottom, led it by zig-zag paths to the very platform which all had feared, and thence, happily, there is no reascending. There is unspeakable advantage in this unexpected result. It puts an end to invidious class distinctions. It renders unnecessary further out-door agitation. It gives the people the power of completing the work of organic reform. And it effectually settles the one point of difference between Parliament and the working classes, which imported an element of danger into the controversy.

It is a pity that the Conservatives having yielded this much, did not take heart of grace to yield more. Their franchise clauses are at war with their redistribution clauses, and, notwithstanding what they have granted, aggravate the anomalies of what they retain. The sacrifice of a dozen little boroughs for the sake of giving increased representative power to populous places, might have set the whole question at rest for the present century. As it is, the question of redistribution will have to be reopened as soon as the first reformed Parliament is returned. As the obstruction to last year's Bill eventuated in a vastly wider extension of the suffrage than it proposed, so the refusal to adapt approximately the new allotment of seats to the increased number of voters, will be speedily followed by a greater change in that direction than any one of us had anticipated. The contrast between the electoral privilege of petty decaying towns, with the non-existence, or inadequate existence, of that privilege in large and thriving communities, will be too startling to admit of the continuance of present arrangements. Not four but forty boroughs will presently be called upon to surrender to more important places the direct political power which Mr. Disraeli has refused to withdraw from them, and the balance between the people and the great landlords will be more than redressed. This branch of the controversy is not settled, but only adjourned. The enactments of the Bill on this head must be regarded as provisional. They were framed to admit of the Bill being passed by the present House. The next House will make better work of it.

Such being the case, we trust the Liberals will see fit to cut short further discussion. They cannot essentially improve the measure as it stands, and they may lose many precious days in vainly attempting it. They had better patiently bide their time. It will come surely, and it will come soon. So much as they have already got is well worth keeping. Let them not endanger it by exposing it to the chapter of accidents. When this Reform Bill has become law, and the large breadth of ground

which it covers is fairly and finally behind them, they will be in a position to dictate where they are now fain to submit. No threat of abandoning the measure, no fear of dissolution, no apprehension of what the Lords may do, will then scare their forces. The game will be in their own hands. They will then lead, and the Tories must follow suit. Yes! land is in sight.

EXECUTION OF MAXIMILIAN.

PRESIDENT JUAREZ has kept his word—he has shot the Emperor Maximilian. All Europe, and we shall not be far out in saying all America, condemns the deed. It was a needless barbarity, a gratuitous offence to the spirit of the age, apparently as impolitic as it was severe. All men of gentle nurture and generous sympathies will raise a sigh over the victim, and will utter a stern denunciation against the captor. In such a case imagination plays an important part. The Emperor Maximilian was brother to the Emperor of Austria, husband of King Leopold's daughter, first cousin to Queen Victoria, heir presumptive of the Austrian throne, possessor of Miramar. He was a man, moreover, of gentle manners, of liberal tendencies, of generous impulses, self-sacrificing, romantic, and brave. He went to Mexico with magnanimous intentions, gave himself unreservedly to his adopted country, and sincerely desired to keep as well as win the confidence of his people. And he has been shot like a dog, while his Empress is at Miramar, insane in consequence of her troubles. The contrast between what Maximilian might have become, and what he is, enhances public indignation at the harsh fate to which he has been consigned, and intensifies the disapprobation with which the act of Juarez is viewed.

Still, we must not let imagination run away with our judgment. When the French invaded Mexico, Juarez was its lawfully elected President. He yielded to overwhelming force, but never surrendered his claims, nor those of the people who had elected him. The length and obstinacy of his resistance to the usurper proved that he received the support of no insignificant section of the Mexican nation. Maximilian knew well the risk which he ran in ascending the throne which Napoleon had erected for him, and that risk he accepted. Foreigners had changed the institutions of the country, and foreigners alone could maintain the change. If they failed, the enterprise failed, and the failure of usurpation is commonly regarded as deserving of death. Juarez never saw Maximilian in the haze with which European fancy surrounded him. The Indian President of the Republic was not dazzled by any splendour of royalty. He had no appreciation of his enemy's regal ancestry. To him, Maximilian was no more than his old antagonist Miramon, or Marquez, or any other of the aspiring soldiers who systematically snatched at power. He knew no claim which the European Archduke had to a throne in his country, and he regarded the Emperor's assumption of sovereignty therein as a political crime. But when he and his adherents were treated as brigands, when by an Imperial edict his captured officers were put to death within twenty-four hours of their falling into their enemy's hands, and when the same cruel fate was menaced to those who fed, or comforted, or in any way harboured the struggling Juarists, it was not likely that this man would cherish in his heart any feeling of mercy for his antagonist. He did to Maximilian what Maximilian would have done to him, if he had been finally unsuccessful. Such a deed is to be abhorred in any case—but justice constrains us to call to mind that in ordering Maximilian to be shot, he followed the example which the misguided monarch had set him. Few men uttered their protest when the Juarist generals were slain—no thrill of horror vibrated through Europe—no Court remonstrated against such sanguinary proceedings—how was Juarez to know that the execution in cold blood of military prisoners is abhorrent to the spirit of the age.

Thus disastrously ends the experiment of making the Latin race counterbalance the Saxon race on the continent of America. It has covered the glory of Napoleon with a thick cloud, just as his sun was attaining its meridian. It is a heavy retribution for him. It is an emphatic warning to others. Emperors are not above law, and when they aim to put themselves there, they must be prepared to endure the consequences of failure.

"SHALL WE CROWN OUR FANATICS?"

THIS is a question which the *Pall Mall Gazette* has put in relation to Mr. Garrison, and which it has answered, after its own fashion, in the negative. We might reply to its question

by asking another—Has any great or good cause ever been won without fanaticism? The Apostles were great fanatics. Luther was a fanatic of no mean order. Washington was a patriotic fanatic as Cobden was the fanatic of free trade. The world owes everything to the great men who have lived and if needs be have laid down their lives for an idea. Your critic of the *Pall Mall* stamp is in no danger of walking in the footsteps of fanatics like William Lloyd Garrison. The earnestness, the self-sacrifice, the untiring zeal of such a life is far beyond the apprehension of the man of cold and calculating temperament, whose breast has never been stirred by a single impulse of enthusiasm, who looks with a strange wonder upon those who, instead of living at peace with their neighbours, persist in plunging into a turmoil of strife. According to the biographer of Lord Palmerston in the *Times*, his lordship had little faith in what has been called "world-bettering." The *Pall Mall Gazette* has still less; for it does not believe in "world-bettering," even when it succeeds. Our contemporary thinks that Mr. Garrison is not a great man because he did not—at least in its judgment—deliver a great speech when he was entertained in St. James's Hall. Verbatim reports of that speech were published in several of the public journals; but the *Pall Mall* preferred to select the meagre and unsatisfactory epitome of it which appeared in the *Times*. If instead of consulting a report which was not a report, the writer had gone to the columns of the *Morning Star* or the *Daily News*, he would have found that Mr. Garrison has the faculty of speaking in manly and outspoken English, of discussing great principles in the spirit of a man who understands them, of recounting the services of himself and his associates with that modesty which is the characteristic of real greatness.

The question is not whether Mr. Garrison is an orator; but whether by forty years of public labour, devoted to the cause of the poorest and most despised of mankind, he has established a just claim to the respect and gratitude of the world—whether, in fact, he is entitled to that honourable recognition of his services which was paid to him in St. James's Hall by an assembly that has never been surpassed for its imposing intellectual and moral character. Is the *Pall Mall Gazette* right? Or are Mr. Bright, the Duke of Argyll, Lord Russell, and Mr. Mill the best judges? We can answer for ourselves, and, we think, we can answer for our readers. Unless he deserved the tribute he received, that tribute would never have been offered to him by the chosen representatives of English thought and of English political life. But the *Times* steps in to assure us that the actual abolition of slavery owes little to the efforts of Mr. Garrison and his associates. It was the infatuation of the slaveholders—it was the battalions of the Federal Government which opened the prison door and set the captives free. Thus reasons the *Times*. We can imagine the same writer arguing that it was the infatuation of the Protectionists, combined with the great political influence and personal following of Sir Robert Peel, and not the agitation of the Anti-Corn Law League, which abolished the Corn Laws. If the slaveholders had responded to Mr. Garrison's appeals, if their consciences had been reached by his arguments and his warnings, and they had put an end to slavery, as he desired, by peaceful methods, the honour of being the Wilberforce of America would still have been his. But although, in consequence of Southern infatuation, it became necessary for President Lincoln to hurl battalion after battalion, army after army, at the rebellious Slave Power, who was it that made a war originally waged for the restoration of the Union, a war ultimately for the extirpation of "the sum of all villainies"? Why, surely the man who for nearly forty years had been leavening the public mind with the doctrines of pure and unadulterated abolitionism. The seed had for many a long year been cast upon stony ground; but at last the harvest time came, and although it was human blood which fertilised the soil and gave marvellous vitality to the ideas which had been sown in darkness, but not in despair, to Garrison is pre-eminently due the honour of having prepared the way for this magnificent consummation. The moderation and prudence of the *Times* and the *Pall Mall Gazette*, if these qualities could have been enthroned in President Lincoln's Cabinet, would probably have done nothing to avert the war, while they would have deprived that war of its chief compensation.

The career of Mr. Garrison is pregnant with instruction and wisdom. The poor printer, whose only assistant was a negro boy and whose earliest experience of public life was gathered in a Baltimore jail, has lived to become the emancipator of a race. In an office so obscure

that the Mayor of Boston could with difficulty discover it, he first published his *Liberator*, which gave birth to the sentiment that ultimately achieved the deliverance of nearly four millions of slaves. A price was set upon his head by the Legislature of Georgia; but he has lived to see the day when not one of his would-be assassins can till his plantation with the labour of a single slave. He was dragged out to die in Boston; but the Puritan city now looks upon him as its most honoured citizen, and has long been leavened with the principles to which thirty years ago it offered the most deadly opposition. The story points its own moral. Mr. Mill, however, gave it a new application when he urged his hearers to aim at something difficult and not to be scared by the taunts of Quixotism. It is perfectly true, as he said, that the prize most worth having is the most difficult to obtain; but that whether the endeavour be successful or not, a hundred other good things never dreamed of will, in the end, have been accomplished. The demonstration at St. James's Hall, if it had done no more than pay a tribute to the heroic Garrison, would have been worthy of honour for its own sake; but, conveying this lesson, it will exercise a wide and salutary influence, not limited to time or place. That lesson has been rendered still more impressive by the noble confession of Lord Russell, that he was wrong in the estimate he formed of Mr. Lincoln's policy on the slavery question. His lordship frankly admitted that Mr. Lincoln was right and that he was wholly at fault; and he imparted new grace to his recantation by the candid disclosure that it was to conversations with Mr. Adams that he owed the change that had taken place in his opinions. No deliverance could have been more calculated to assuage the animosities which yet linger among our American brethren. Lord Russell could not have afforded a better example of true greatness of mind, or have established a nobler claim to the title of "a peacemaker."

REPRESENTATION OF THE LONDON UNIVERSITY.

THE House of Commons was merciful enough to condemn the unnatural union proposed by the Government to serve its own purposes between the Universities of London and Durham, and the former is to stand by itself among the constituencies of England. Although another year must elapse before the new franchises can be exercised, it is not extraordinary that the University of London should already have many suitors for the honour of representing her in the Legislature. A great distinction it would no doubt be to represent a seat of learning which has already achieved a brilliant success during the comparatively short period of its existence, which contains on its roll of members the names of men distinguished in science and literature throughout the civilised world, and which possesses a greater variety of elements in its electoral body than any other constituency in the kingdom. Whoever may be chosen to fill that post will occupy a position of great weight in the next Parliament, and it is of no slight importance that the graduates of the University should anxiously estimate the responsibilities that have been placed upon them, so that their trust may be exercised for the benefit of the nation, and the promotion of sound Liberal principles, rather than the furtherance of local or sectional interests. Only by such means will this new University constituency be able to vindicate its claim to lead instead of follow in the wake of the advanced opinion of the age.

There is every reason to believe that there will be a vigorous contest for the new seat. It is almost inevitable. We may presume that Conservatism, either of the old or the new type, would not venture to take the field for such a prize. United or divided, the Liberals must we should imagine, carry the day in a University which has been from the first identified with the spirit of progress, and the advanced thought of the times. But what is Liberalism in the Parliamentary sense? The events of the last few months have entirely altered the significance of the term. Are we to go for a definition of Liberalism to Mr. Lowe, who after doing his utmost to dam up the tide of Reform, on the ground of the absolute perfection of our present representative system, is now actually put forward as having irresistible claims upon the suffrages of the Liberal graduates of London University? The man who outvied the most reactionary Tory in his persistent opposition to popular enfranchisement, and his expressions of distrust of the working classes, and whose hands are yet red so to speak with the blood of Earl Russell's Cabinet, is now actually commended to the suffrages of the graduates of the most en-

lightened university of the country as a fit and proper person to represent its advanced views in the legislature. The announcement of Mr. Lowe's name seemed at first like a practical joke. But a small section of the University constituency seems to be seriously in earnest in bringing him forward, though rather as a feeler than with any well grounded hopes of success. It is undoubtedly desirable that the reformed Parliament should enjoy the advantage of Mr. Lowe's great abilities and faithful criticism, but it would be unseemly that he should re-enter St. Stephen's by favour of the most distinguished of the new constituencies. There is a fitness in things. Mr. Lowe's time may again come, but no one would contend that he ought just now to receive the victor's crown.

Three other candidates have been commended for the favour of this new Parliamentary constituency. Sir John Lubbock is recommended as "specially uniting the scientific and political attainments desirable to the representation of a scientific university's constituency." But if that is the end in view, the University of London does not need to go beyond her own sons for a man who can worthily represent her. Sir John, like Mr. Lowe, is not a fellow graduate of those whose suffrages he seeks. Both Mr. Bagehot and Dr. Wood are members of the University, and each is supported by an influential section of graduates. Their respective claims are to be measured not only by their personal and political qualifications, but by the proofs they have given of devotion to the interests of the University, and, above all, by the exigencies of the times. There are great questions, ripe for legislative action, in the ultimate settlement of which this influential constituency may have a potential voice.

Pre-eminent among the subjects which will demand the consideration of the next Parliament will be the Irish Church. What may be the views of Mr. Bagehot on this great ecclesiastical question does not clearly appear from the published statement of his opinions. He says that "the Irish Church is no longer supported by argument, and only lives from day to day because the old school of Liberal politicians never forget that they once hurt their party by endeavouring to touch it," and he expresses his confidence that "a new and therefore more impulsive Parliament will sweep away the cobwebs of old politicians." But Mr. Bagehot does not indicate the means by which he would meet this Irish difficulty. We only trust that the obscurity of his language does not conceal a latent sympathy with the new creed of philosophical Liberals—the indiscriminate endowment of all Churches by the State. On this question Dr. Wood, we are glad to observe, is equally frank and satisfactory. He does not interpret "complete justice to Ireland" as a readiness to bribe all religious bodies by dividing among them the property of the Irish Church. But he says, "Being conscientiously opposed to the theory of Church Establishments, I cannot be a party to any extension of the principle, in Ireland, or elsewhere. At the same time, I am fully prepared to contend for the like liberty for other Churches, which I claim for my own."

This explicit declaration raises the whole question of the principles on which the Irish Church difficulty shall be settled. It is the most important practical subject that will occupy the attention of the Reformed Parliament—the one question of the day on which the Liberal party is seriously divided. We earnestly hope that the graduates of the University of London will leave no room for doubt as to their opinions in the matter. The Nonconformist section of the constituency is numerous and influential. The opportunity is offered them of taking a prominent part in the controversy which has already commenced as to the future relations of the State to religious bodies. If they believe that the religion and morality of this country will be disastrously affected by degrading Christian communities into instruments of State craft, they can now speak with some authority. Is religious equality in this country to be attained by indiscriminate endowments, or by impartial disendowment? This great question awaits an answer, not merely from Whig statesmen, who are ready to catch at any makeshift remedy for a crying evil, or from doctrinaire politicians who would make the ministers of religion a kind of spiritual police, but from the nation at large. Are Church Establishments to be kept up by extension or got rid of by abolition? The new constituency for the London University will be perhaps the first which will be called upon to answer this question, and we have confidence that the reply will be so clear and distinct as to put an end to the schemes of indiscriminate endowment which are now in high favour with the leaders of the Liberal party.

GROWLING.

How dearly human nature loves a deep, hearty, prolonged growl—that is, a growl which will growl clean out of it the oppressive accumulation of stuff which is generated by wrath that cannot otherwise find vent! Don't expect from us, good reader, any general and unqualified dispraise of growling. In its fitting place and season it is not a bad thing. It may be abused by being misplaced, mistimed, or indulged to excess. But we uphold it as a very healthy practice when kept under proper regulation. It discharges as necessary a function as the blowing off of steam from an engine when the pressure upon it is too many pounds to the square inch. It acts as a preventive of danger. It fires off a man's passion in blank cartridge, or into the air. It is the sheet lightning of anger—diffuses harmlessly the electricity of his excited nature, and tends to forestall its breaking forth in a concentrated flash. It is not lovely, we must admit—it is not a thing for men to be proud of. But we could point at a great many other things which are not lovely, but which yet have their appointed use—a great many things which the wisest and most amiable men are obliged to do, and yet wish to forget as soon as they are done. Growling is a disagreeable process to those who only witness it—but to the growler himself it is a process which wonderfully relieves him.

Now growls are to be distinguished into perfect and imperfect. There is a growl and a growl. The growl—that which does a man good—is not a habit, but the vocal outburst of an emotion, or of a conflict of emotions, and is therefore only occasional. As a habit, growling is a factitious and insincere thing, having no *raison d'être*, no external cause, no point, no use. It is a sort of running protest against persons and events in general, not because they are wrong in themselves, but because he who takes exception to them is morally disordered. It visits a man's inward dissatisfaction with his own state upon outward objects which are not in any way responsible for it. Even when it is directed against real evil, it is merely the substitution of a cheap and nasty expression of indignation for a manly attempt to stop it in its career. Besides, it is never hearty. It resembles the drone of the bagpipes—monotonous, often out of harmony with what it accompanies, and a perfectly gratuitous offence to every cultivated ear. But a *bond fide* growl bears the same relation to any insult or injury offered to man's moral nature, as a groan does to a hurt inflicted on his body. It comes up direct from the innermost depths of his being. It represents the whole assemblage of his attributes and affections. It speaks their resentment of a definite outrage to which they have been, or think they have been, subjected. It is rather the show of anger against indignities and wrongs, than the rumbling of habitual ill-humour. A genuine growl has its appointed place in the economy of our life, quite as much as an exclamation of joy, and is no more to be condemned than a song of gladness. It gives warning that worse may follow should the occasion of it be repeated or prolonged—or where it is only uttered in one's den, it gets rid of the malignant element which silent wrath is so apt to breed. Grumbling is a despicable propensity—we cannot offer an excuse for it—but the uses of a deep, well-proportioned, natural growl are indescribable and incalculable.

We cannot, then, profess any very high degree of respect for people who cannot growl—men, we mean, for women it misbecomes. The molluscous variety of the *genius homo* is intended, doubtless, to serve some good purpose, though it would puzzle a wider philosophy than we can lay claim to, to determine what. It is usually found that they who never growl are not on that account to be set down with certainty as innoxious. They can sting like the jelly-fish which the tide so often strands upon our coasts. Their bland and unctuous speech, their never-ceasing simper, their profuse epithets of endearment, and their desire to skin over the evils they cannot heal, so as to make things pleasant during their time at least, sometimes hide an essentially selfish and even malignant disposition, and, albeit such men give you no warning, neither your reputation nor your interests are quite safe in their hands. But apart altogether from this contingency, even if they never bite your heels, nor from behind your back, in an affectionate way ruin your prospects, their flabbiness of fibre unfits them to grapple with things that must be grappled with if the world is not to be abandoned to its misery and sin. They cannot growl—good gracious! how can it be expected that anything so inharmonious should ever come up from their oleaginous hearts? But as they cannot growl, so neither can they guard from assault any truth or

right committed to their keeping. They float through a liquid existence, doubtless with some limited sense of enjoyment to themselves, and if they can keep themselves from coming in contact with harder natures, they may have a very pleasant life of it, and even attract some notice—but let them be cast upon rough places, and they soon show that they are without a backbone of will, and their very passivity deprives them of all power to do useful service, whether to themselves or others.

But, brother growler, let us not be insensible to our danger. There are times when growling should be done face to face with wrong, and there are times when it is permissible only when a man is alone—and both present considerable peril. In the first case, one is too apt to let the process intensify the indignation it is intended to express until it ceases to be under the control of reason. The sound of the growl reacts upon the passion from which it proceeds, and is too apt to end in an attempt to bite. Now we do not say that a bite is never necessary—for it is necessary to hold fast good against evil, and, in the last resort, if evil is pertinacious in its attacks, it must be made to understand that it must do so at its own risk. But this is seldom requisite in well-ordered society, and in truth, can seldom be had recourse to until something of the savage element is roused in the bosom. "Be ye angry, and sin not." Growl your growl, and have done with it! Let it be a protest against what is beggarly or mean, unfaithful or treacherous, hypocritical or openly wicked—but let it not degenerate into personal malice or revenge. "Let not the sun go down upon your wrath." Out with it, whilst the wrong is before you, if so it may be! Out with it as a warning, not as punishment; as a cry of charity, not as an ebullition of temper! Out with it in all its dissonance, yet always with so much reserve as will allow you to measure its effect, and to stop it when it has answered its end, which should be simply the prevention of present and active evil! Don't think to do positive good by growling. It will not make bad men better, but it may at least make them think twice before they commit themselves to worse—as the growl of a mastiff will not turn a burglar into an honest man, but may make him sensible that house-breaking is no safe game.

There are cases, however, in which it is impossible to stand face to face with what calls loudly enough for rebuke, but in which a man feels as helpless as one who witnesses from the top of a cliff the foundering of a vessel in a storm. This is especially felt in regard to public affairs. Frequently people have to witness flagrant atrocities without having the least opportunity of preventing them or protesting against them. What can they do? Are they to sit brooding over what they cannot alter? But it is never safe to brood over injuries, whether done to yourself or to others. It is better to betake yourself to your den, and growl away the vindictiveness of feeling which they excite in you. That will as little harm as benefit anybody else, but it may serve to restore the balance of your own mind. When next you come forth into the walks of daily life you may do so without being preoccupied and absorbed by a sense of indignant reprobation likely enough to flash forth when and where there is no call for it. And here the peril is lest what may be done with advantage now and then should come to be looked upon in the light of an indulgence—a sort of luxury appropriate to solitude. There are men who watch for occasions of growling—who grow to like it—and who spoil their natures by harping incessantly upon one string, and that not by any means a cheerful one. Still, it is true that such growling as must be done by way of passing off angry feelings should be done when a man is alone. His household should have his good humour—let him pour out his wrath in his own hearing only, so that none but himself be troubled with it.

THE CZAR'S AMNESTY TO THE POLES.—An extract of a Warsaw letter in the *Posen Journal*, July 2, says:—"The Czar's so-called act of clemency to the Poles is a dead letter, having no real or definite object. The arrival of the Emperor here was illustrated in a perfectly special and original manner; for, at the moment the silent monarch was making his entry into Warsaw, six vehicles filled with victims for Siberia were leaving the prison walls. We had another proof of the clemency of our august master and a new surprise the day before yesterday. The police have again commenced their operations by arresting in the public streets women who are dressed in black. After having been taken before the Commissioner of Police, these poor women have been condemned to pay a heavy fine, in spite of their remonstrances and assurances that the gloomy colour of their dresses was not intended as political mourning or as a political manifestation."

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE LUXEMBURG GUARANTEE.

On Thursday there was an interesting discussion on the interpretation to be put upon the words "collective guarantee" in the Luxembourg Treaty. Lord HOUGHTON asked what interpretation the Government put upon the words. Lord DERBY replied in effect that the words meant that in case of the invasion of Luxembourg no single Power was called upon to interfere, but that all the Powers who were parties to the treaty must interfere collectively. He added that the stipulations of the treaty in that respect were fully binding on England. Earl RUSSELL and several other peers took part in the discussion, and the result seems to be that, after all that has been said, England has undertaken a real responsibility in respect to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

THE EDUCATION GRANTS.

On Friday Lord CORK called attention to the hardship inflicted upon small parishes by making the employment of certificated teachers an indispensable condition for obtaining assistance from the Government grants for education. Avowing a preference for the system of payment for results—a system equally just to all schools, whether under certificated teachers or not—he quoted from a draught report proposed by Sir J. Pakington, but not adopted by the select committee of 1865, to prove that some modification of the present regulations might usefully be made. The restriction of the grants to certificated schools, he continued, pressed hardly upon the poorer clergy who were unaided by wealthy neighbours, and in proof of the necessity for some modification he cited the fact that last year there were 11,000 schools excluded from participation in the State grants. However great the difficulty of dealing with the question, the evils arising from the present restrictive system were admitted, and, considering the national importance of extending as widely as possible the benefits of education, he hoped the attention of the President of the Council would be given to it.

The Bishop of GLOUCESTER admitted the importance of having certificated masters, but was also aware of the difficulties which the present system entailed on rural districts. He suggested whether a portion of the capitation grant might not be made to schools with uncertified masters, and also whether the co-operation of diocesan boards of education could not be made available for the purposes of examination.

The Duke of MARLBOROUGH, recognising the importance of the question raised, quoted the opinion of the commissioners of 1859 as to the necessity of employing trained teachers and of making the public grants dependent upon such employment. Payment for results would, he contended, be unsatisfactory, because the public grants were made consequent not only upon the examination of the children, but upon the condition of the school-buildings, books, and other details. But if all schools were to be examined in order to ascertain results, very great increase of expense would be incurred, and in many cases without any corresponding benefit, as in the cases of schools which were not at all qualified for the grant. At present the certificate system gave a guarantee that the school to be examined was likely to become entitled to assistance. The case of unassisted schools was important, and several efforts had been made to meet the difficulty by modifying the terms upon which teachers could obtain certificates, and the number of unassisted schools was diminishing. The subject would, however, still continue to receive his careful attention.

The Consecration and Ordination Fees Bill and the Land-tax Commissioners' Names Bill were read a third time and passed.

The third reading of the Salmon Fishery (Ireland) Bill was rejected by 23 to 17.

The sitting was closed shortly after seven o'clock.

THE CHURCHYARDS BILL.

On Monday, in committee upon the Consecration of Churchyards (No. 2) Bill, a discussion arose upon an amendment suggested by Lord PORTMAN, to empower bishops to consecrate graveyards without the necessity of personal attendance *in situ*. The amendment was resisted by the Bishop of OXFORD, and eventually was negatived upon a division by 82 to 35. The bill then passed through committee.

THE RITUAL COMMISSION.

Lord SHAPTESBURY, referring to a published letter, inquired of the Archbishop of Canterbury whether he had any authority for stating that Convocation would be consulted upon questions referred to the Commission on Ritual before any Parliamentary action took place.

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY replied that he did believe there would be serious danger in any alteration being made in the Book of Common Prayer upon the sole authority of Parliament, and referred to various precedents as justifying his statement that Convocation would be consulted before any legislation took place.

The Bishop of LONDON, observing that there were more than one Convocation of the clergy, admitted the propriety of such questions as that now under consideration being submitted to them, but saw no ground for denying the competency of Parliament to legislate upon such subjects.

The discussion was continued by Lord CRANWORTH, who thought Convocation might usefully be

consulted, but maintained the exclusive right of Parliament to legislate; and by the Bishop of CARLISLE, who animadverted strongly upon the supposed bias of the commission, alluding to some published statements of evidence; which provoked an objection from Lord DERBY and the Bishop of OXFORD that mere rumours should not be made a ground of comment; but the Bishop of CARLISLE replied that any pledge for previous consultation of Convocation, after the long continued inactivity of that body, notwithstanding all the facts that had been laid before it, would be regarded by the country as playing into the hands of the Ritualistic party.

Lord DERBY declared that the Government had nothing to do with the pledge contained in the primate's letter, and that he had no doubt as to the competency of Parliament to deal with the subject with or without the consent of Convocation; but at the same time he thought it would be convenient to have the opinion of Convocation upon important changes in Church matters.

After some remarks from other peers the discussion was closed by an announcement from Lord SHAPTESBURY that he should propose the second reading of the Clerical Vestments Bill on the 23rd inst.

The sitting was closed at ten minutes past eight o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

BANS OF MARRIAGE.

On Wednesday Mr. MONK obtained a second reading for his Bans of Matrimony Bill, the object of which is to reconcile the varying practices of publishing bans after the Second Lesson and after the Nicene Creed by providing that they shall be published after the Second Lesson, and it indemnifies all clergymen who have pursued the opposite practice, and validates all marriages celebrated under it. The only opponents of the bill were Mr. BRESFORD HOPE and Sir W. HEATHCOTE, who urged that the question ought to be left to the Marriage Commission now sitting; and Sir G. GREY maintained that there was no ambiguity in the present law, but that if there were any discrepancy between the rubric and the statute, the rubric ought to be made to conform to the statute.

ROMAN CATHOLIC GLEBES.

Sir C. O'LOUGHLIN moved the second reading of the Roman Catholic Churches, Schools, and Glebes (Ireland) Bill. The Charitable Bequests Act enabled an absolute owner of land to make grants or leases of land to any extent for sites for Roman Catholic chapels or schools or glebes, and the bill gave the same power to the limited owner with the consent of the successor, or the Landed Estates Court, but only to the extent of five acres for a chapel or school, and twenty acres for a glebe. He also proposed that the leases should be made, not to trustees, but to the Roman Catholic bishop, thinking it important that Roman Catholic bishops should be recognised by the law. The bill did not abolish the law of mortmain in Ireland, as that law did not exist in that country.

Mr. NEWDEGATE said by this and other bills a revolution was being carried out, and the principle of repudiating the interference of the Holy See was in danger of being destroyed. The object of the bill was to invest all the property that could be obtained, not in trustees, but solely in the bishops, and to place it, therefore, at the disposal of the Apostolic Legate. He moved the rejection of the bill.

Mr. BAGWELL remarked that the bill really was to enable landowners to do that in legal form which was now done in sham. It would be a great advantage to the country to place the Roman Catholic clergy in a more independent position. Mr. WHALLEY said no one could be more desirous than he was that the Roman Catholic clergy should be comfortably housed. He denied that these concessions tended to conciliate the Roman Catholics of Ireland. Mr. HENLEY did not think anybody could object to giving power to persons to grant land for glebes, provided that the quantity was not excessive, but he thought it was not advisable to make a bishop a trustee. Mr. M'LAREN objected to the bill because it related to one denomination alone. He recommended the promoters of the bill to withdraw it, and bring in a general bill. Mr. SELWYN denied the allegation that the law of mortmain did not apply to Ireland, and he objected to the bill because it abolished the law of mortmain in Ireland, and also because it enabled a tenant for life to grant a lease for a thousand years against the real owners.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL for Ireland submitted that the bill was not necessary, except for purposes not avowed. By the law as it at present stood grants might be made, not exceeding five acres, and official trustees were provided; and therefore the principal effect of this bill would be to constitute the Roman Catholic bishops trustees, and thereby to give them a legal status and recognition.

On a division the bill was rejected by 119 to 75.

COLLEGE FELLOWSHIPS.

On the order for going into committee on the Uniformity Act Amendment Bill, Mr. BENTINCK withdrew a motion to postpone going into committee for six months, on Mr. FAWCETT undertaking to fix a convenient day for a discussion on the bill on the third reading.

The House went into committee, and the clauses were agreed to, a new clause being added at the instance of Mr. NEATE, and after a division, in which the numbers were 92 to 86, providing that nothing contained in the act shall affect the obligation under

which any college or hall may be to maintain itself in connection with the Church of England.

The Public Records (Ireland) Bill was read a third time, and passed.

Mr. G. HARDY obtained leave to bring in a bill to extend the Trades Union Commission Act, 1867.

The House adjourned at half-past five o'clock.

THE IRISH CHURCH COMMISSION.

On Thursday, Mr. MONSELL asked the Chief Secretary for Ireland when he would be able to state the names of the commissioners to inquire into the revenues of the Established Church in Ireland, and the instructions intended to be issued for the guidance of such commissioners. Lord NAAS said that the appointment of a commission was only adopted a few days ago. The selection of the commissioners obviously required great consideration, and must take some little time, but no unnecessary delay would take place. In answer to a further question by Mr. Monsell, Lord NAAS said he desired to lay the names on the table before the end of the session, and would do so if possible.

THE SLAVE-TRADE ON THE NILE.

Sir F. BUXTON asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether his attention had been drawn to a report of an interview between the Viceroy of Egypt and a deputation of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society in Paris, at which the Viceroy stated that "if he were free to act against European slave-traders the slave-trade would soon disappear" from the Nile; and if he was prepared to give the requisite authority to overhaul and detain slave-traders hoisting the British flag. Lord STANLEY said his attention had only been drawn to the report by the hon. gentleman's notice. He had always been under the impression that the continuance of the slave-trade upon the Upper Nile was due less to the difficulty of putting it down than to the tolerance—he might say the connivance—of subordinate local officials. As to the hon. baronet's second question, there was of course no wish in this country to protect slave-traders, whether under the British or any other flag, but treaty questions might be involved, and to give somewhat arbitrary powers to subordinate local officials in an Eastern country at a great distance from the seat of authority might involve some risk. The question required a good deal of care and consideration, and he hoped the hon. member would not press for any more definite answer at present.

THE REFORM BILL.

In committee on the Representation of the People Bill, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated the course which the Government recommended for the more rapid prosecution of the bill. Pressing on the committee the importance of sending the bill up to the Lords in sufficient time for them to discuss it amply, and assuming that, after the divisions of Tuesday, the House was generally favourable to the redistribution scheme of the Government, with the modification of Mr. Horsfall's clause, he suggested that after the clause now under consideration (Mr. Hibbert's, prohibiting the payment of travelling expenses) was disposed of, the committee should go straight to the schedules, and that the amendments, which could not be discussed on the schedules, should be taken on the report. Pointing out that until the schedules were disposed of there must be great vagueness as to the time when the committee would terminate its labours, and protesting that the Government had no desire to force this course upon the House, and that they would not take it except with general concurrence, he intimated that the schedules, having been drawn up in great haste, but still with all the information at the command of the Government, and by impartial persons quite out of the influence of political inclinations, were open to modification, and reminded the committee that many of the arrangements in the schedules would be subject to the revision of the boundary commission. He then went on to state the names of the four towns which would be struck out of schedule B to furnish the four members for the large towns—viz., St. Helen's, Keighley, Luton, and Barnsley.

Mr. CRAWFORD objected to the proposal; and

Mr. BRIGHT repeated his opinion that these four seats ought to be got from the small boroughs, to which total disfranchisement would be an unmitigated blessing. After expressing a hope that Mr. Disraeli would assent ultimately to his suggestion, he added that though this concession was refused he should not consider that a reason for obstructing the progress of the bill.

Mr. J. B. SMITH cordially endorsed Mr. Disraeli's suggestion, as did also Mr. BAXTER, who, however, repeated his objections to the inadequate scope of the redistribution scheme.

Lord CRANBORNE deprecated a departure from the ordinary course of procedure, especially on a bill of such importance, urging that many of the new clauses could not be discussed after the schedules had been disposed of; and was supported by Mr. GLADSTONE, who pointed out that his own amendment for giving each division of South Lancashire three members could not be discussed on the schedules, though he allowed that all amendments which could be discussed then ought to be deferred.

Mr. LOWE, while admitting that Mr. Disraeli's suggestion would have been reasonable had he brought in an intelligible bill at the commencement of the session and stuck to it, maintained that the Protean changes which had happened since it went into committee rendered it more necessary than ever that, before parting finally with the bill, the House should do what was possible to mitigate the

violence of the change which had been forced on the country by the Conservative party, and which he hinted was disliked even by Mr. Bright, wittily comparing him to the landlord in "Pelham," who was compelled by his guests to swallow a glass of his own wine. As his motion for cumulative voting was the last chance of introducing this mitigating influence, he should not waive it.

Mr. LAING said he should accept Mr. Disraeli's suggestion as a practical man, holding that anything which tended to throw the bill over to another session would be most un-Conservative, and intimating that he should postpone his grouping motion until after the schedules.

Mr. BOUVIER pronounced Mr. Disraeli's suggestion to be not unusual, and to be very fair on the assumption that the House meant to pass the bill this session, which he remarked was not Mr. Lowe's desire. Of the forty amendments on the paper thirty-two at least could be discussed in connection with the schedules.

The conversation was wound up by the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, who repeated that he had no wish to insist on his suggestion against the feeling of the House.

The committee then proceeded with the discussion of Mr. Hibbert's clause, to prohibit the payment of the expenses of conveying voters to the poll, the second reading of which was carried by 168 to 101, and after being so amended as to except counties and the four agricultural boroughs of Shoreham, Criklade, Thetford, and Aylesbury, it was added to the bill.

A clause was also agreed to, on the motion of Mr. Goldsmith, allowing the constituents of the London University to vote by voting papers.

Considerably over two hours was taken up in the discussion of a clause proposed by Sir THOMAS LLOYD, to prohibit the meeting of candidates' committees at hotels and public-houses. It was amended in various ways, two amendments being carried by large majorities, on divisions, but ultimately the clause, as a whole, was rejected by a majority of 99—197 to 98.

Sir H. VERNY proposed a clause enfranchising the officers of the Revenue Departments, which was opposed by Mr. DISRAELI and Mr. GLADSTONE, and supported by Mr. MONK and Mr. CLAY, but was ultimately negatived without a division.

Mr. LOWE then moved his "cumulative voting" clause in these terms:—

At any contested election for a county or borough represented by more than two members, and having more than one seat vacant, every voter shall be entitled to a number of votes equal to the number of vacant seats, and may give all such votes to one candidate, or may distribute them among the candidates as he thinks fit.

Dividing his arguments into two branches, the abstract-justice and the expediency, Mr. Lowe, anticipating that he should be as unsuccessful as other persons who had attempted to break the monotony of the new franchise, and disclaiming the idea of protecting minorities, urged, under the first head, that all voters ought to have the same number of votes without reference to the use they might make of them, whereas at present, in elections where there were three candidates set up on one side by the majority, and only one by the minority, those voting in the majority had three votes, and those voting in the minority, having but one vote, were amerced of two-thirds of their electoral power. As to the expediency of the proposal, though he did not put it forward as a barrier against the democratic effects of the bill, he urged that it would make the changes from the majority to the minority more gradual, that it would prevent violent oscillations from one side to the other, and would preserve those delicate shades of public opinion between one extreme and the other so essential to the protection and representation of all interests and classes in the country.

Mr. HUGHES supported the motion; and Mr. LIDDELL, with a view of affording an opportunity for more adequate discussion than was possible at half-past twelve o'clock, moved that the Chairman report progress. On a division the motion was defeated by a majority of 125—213 to 88.

A second motion for adjournment was made by Sir C. RUSSELL, and, after a rather boisterous conversation, Mr. DISRAELI agreed to it.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes past one o'clock.

THE SCOTCH REFORM BILL.

On Friday, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER (answering a question from Mr. Baxter) said that after the English bill had passed he should ask the House to read the Scotch Reform Bill a second time to sanction its principles, but the details he would propose to adjourn until next session.

THE CUMULATIVE PRINCIPLE.

The adjourned debate on Mr. Lowe's resolution was resumed by Mr. SHAW-LEFEBVRE, who opposed it on the ground that it would lead to a class representation and class legislation.

Mr. GOSSET, in supporting it, admitted that it was not of any great importance at present, but the redistribution scheme must infallibly be enlarged, and under the new franchise every member would represent but one overwhelming class, and some scheme of this kind was necessary to secure the representation of the intelligent classes of each constituency.

Mr. MORRISON, who had an amendment on the paper modifying Mr. Lowe's amendment by giving each voter in constituencies represented by three members two votes only, traced the history of this idea from the time when it was first suggested in

the Reform debates by Mr. Praed, and while admitting that the majority ought to rule, urged that the minority ought at least to be heard, that the proposal, of the party effect of which he took no account, would raise the character of the House, and that it would diminish electioneering expenses.

Mr. BEACH also supported the clause, admitting that it could not be confined to unicorn constituencies.

Sir R. COLLIER, after remarking that all the arguments in favour of the cumulative vote were founded on a distrust of the new classes of voters, and went, in fact, against the bill, maintained that it must logically be extended to towns with two members; the practical result of which would be that, as a minority of one-third could always return a member, the representation of the large towns would be equally divided and neutralised, and the decision of all great questions would be in the hands of the members for the small towns. But, if confined to the unicorn constituencies, the result would be that the greatest towns would practically have no more voting power than the smallest boroughs, for two of the members would neutralise each other and the third only would count; and among other objections he urged that it would produce political stagnation, infinitely worse than political excitement, and that all members for minorities would hereafter be excluded from taking office, as it would be impossible for them to get re-election.

Mr. FAWCETT, in supporting the clause, urged that by reducing the expenses of elections the cumulative vote would open the House of Commons to independent men of moderate means, and would prevent that tyranny of the majority over the minority which he insisted was a characteristic rather of an oligarchy than of a pure democracy.

Mr. NEWKENTZ based his support of the clause on the consideration that one mode of representing the minority—the small boroughs—was largely curtailed by this bill, and that it was an instrument—quoting a maxim of De Tocqueville—to regulate democracy which could not be arrested.

Mr. BRIGHT, after pointing out that the proposal was made by a gentleman who had consistently opposed all extension of the franchise, remarked that he expected it to be supported by Lord Cranborne's party, but was surprised that it should have been so warmly espoused by such a man as Mr. Fawcett, who seemed inclined to go much further towards democracy than himself, who had no sympathy with these newfangled devices, and had always urged the House to walk in the old ways of the constitution. Considering the magnitude of the results Mr. Lowe professed to apprehend from this bill, the remedy he proposed was infinitesimal—it was as puerile as if a man tried to stem an avalanche by abstracting a snowball from it, and he maintained that, even under this bill, between the large and small boroughs and the counties the minority would have its full share of representation. The question was worth discussing in debating societies, but not of the serious attention of a practical assembly; and among other objections he urged that it would destroy all healthy activity of political life, that members would be sent to the House under its operation by little cliques, and that it would weaken the Executive Government. Its practical result he likened to the favourite sport of donkey-racing, in which the hindmost won, and illustrated it by the election for the City, in which a minority of 8,000, pitted against a majority of 12,000, must return one member at the head of the poll, and if properly managed might get two. It was enough for the present generation to advance in the old ways—if such a change as this was necessary at any time, it might be left to our children or grandchildren, but first of all we ought to find out that our new system had failed.

Lord CRANBORNE supported the clause as a corrective to the evils of democracy, which was now about to be enthroned in full sway—for the monarchical part of our old constitution was dead and the aristocratic element was sentenced to death; and he argued that while one-half of the ancient elements of our constitution were withdrawn, it was impossible to plead antiquity and prescription against a proposal to neutralise the evils of the new state of things. If the country would have one new thing it must submit to many new things to meet the innovation. That the change, enormous and uncertain in its results as it was, would stop where it was, it was futile to expect. The redistribution scheme would be brought more into harmony with the great revolution in the franchise, the small boroughs would be swept away, and we should be asked to place more and more representative power in the hands of the large towns, and he urged the House, therefore, while it had time, to recognise the wisdom of providing a machinery which would secure the just representation of all classes. Speedily, he warned the House, questions must arise, such as those affecting the rights of employers and employed, which would have to be decided by political force, and which could only be decided in one way if irresistible power were given to the majority, and he concluded by declaring that it was not the undue protection of minorities which was urged, but their right to be saved from absolute disfranchisement and extinction.

Mr. MILL supported the clause on the ground that every body of persons united by the ties of interest or opinion ought to be represented in the House in proportion to their strength out of it; and because, though he held the majority ought to rule, it ought not to tyrannise over the minority; and in an elaborate argument he combated the assertion that

the cumulative vote would weaken the executive, or lead to political stagnation.

Mr. HENLEY, speaking from long experience of an unicorn constituency, exposed the practical inconveniences of the proposal, and insisted on the injustice of allowing a minority of one fourth to monopolise one third of the representation; and after some remarks from Sir T. F. BUXTON in support of it,

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER contrasted the largeness of the principle with the smallness of its application, and, while admitting that the clause itself was of very little importance, insisted that if there was any justice in the principle, it must be extended to towns with two members, the result of which would be that the opinion of all these towns would be neutralised, and the control of the destinies of the country would be placed in the hands of the towns with only one member—with the members from Scotland, in fact, where that system largely prevailed, with, perhaps, some slight assistance from Wales. After repeating the arguments that the system would weaken the executive, would produce political stagnation, and that the members under it would be the nominees of a clique, he turned to what he described as the bugbear arguments of Lord Cranborne and Mr. Lowe and their terrible anticipations of the influx of democracy. Lord Cranborne, he observed, must know from his official experience that the monarchy was not exactly dead, and, as for the aristocracy, so long as it produced such men as Lord Cranborne, it was not likely to die, and when it ceased it would expire not from external attacks, but internal decay. As to the triumph of democracy, it was not triumphant, even by Mr. Lowe's account, under the present system; and he was unable to see what great triumph would be given to it by a bill which would not admit more than 350,000, all Englishmen born and bred under the laws, traditions, and manners of an ancient country, which, he added, provoking loud laughter, was much beyond mere "flesh and blood"; and, in conclusion, though not grudging to any one the most unlimited indulgence either in public or private predictions of evil, he urged on the House not to accept them as reasons for so great a change in the old constitution of the country.

Sir G. GREY explained that he should vote for the second reading of Mr. Lowe's clause, with the view of amending it afterwards on Mr. Morrison's plan, which he greatly preferred, and

Mr. LOWE having replied at length to all the objections, the clause on a division was rejected by a majority of 141—814 to 178.

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS.

At the evening sitting there was the usual Friday night's miscellaneous discussion on going into Supply. Sir C. O'LOUGHLIN dilated at considerable length on the grievances and anomalies of the Irish Peerage, concluding with a motion for an address to the Queen, praying her not to exercise her prerogative to create Irish Peers, which he withdrew, after some observations from Mr. Pollard-Urquhart, Mr. Pim, Colonel French, and Lord Naas. Sir F. GOLDSMID made a statement in reference to the recent persecution of the Jews in Roumania; to which Lord STANLEY replied that the influence of England and France was being exercised to put an end to these persecutions, and that Prince Charles personally strongly disapproved them.

Mr. TAYLOR called attention to the conviction of two men for poaching by the Salisbury bench of magistrates in March last, who were convicted, as he alleged, on the false evidence of a gamekeeper, of poaching, against evidence showing the innocence of the prisoners. An angry discussion ensued, in the course of which Mr. HARDY defended the magistrates; he, however, admitted that a mistake had been made, but as there was a doubt he had released the prisoners in custody when the matter was brought before him. He animadverted severely on the manner in which Mr. Taylor had brought the matter before the House. Mr. J. S. MILL said he had never heard a more unjustifiable attack on a member; and Mr. Kinnaird, Mr. W. E. Forster, and Mr. Childers defended Mr. Taylor. Ultimately a division was taken on the motion that the depositions be laid on the table, which was negatived by 70 to 31.

The House then adjourned at twenty minutes to two o'clock.

THE REFORM BILL.

On Monday, the House, having gone into committee on the Reform Bill, made good progress. A clause brought up by Mr. Crawford, by which the limits of residence of voters for the City of London were extended from seven to twenty-five miles, was adopted. A clause of Sir H. Verney's for enfranchising police officials was negatived. A clause brought forward by Mr. Vance as to limits of residence was withdrawn. Clauses brought up by Mr. Russell Gurney, declaring that persons in the disfranchised boroughs who had been reported guilty of corrupt practices should not have votes in the counties in which the boroughs were situated, were carried. Lord E. Cecil brought up a clause to disfranchise for ever any one who had ever been convicted of offences against the laws. A long discussion took place upon this proposition, and eventually it was withdrawn. Several other clauses were withdrawn, including two which proposed respectively to give a second member to Huddersfield and Swansea.

Mr. GLADSTONE moved a clause giving three members to each of the two divisions of South Lancashire; which was supported by the Marquis of

HARTINGTON, who complained generally of the neglect with which the county of Lancaster (as well as Yorkshire) had been treated, and particularly of the passing over of rising communities in the county, such as Acorington, Over Darwen, &c. Mr. AYRTON, arguing from the general tone of Mr. Gladstone's speech that he did not intend to press his clause, urged in favour of that course that as there would be ample opportunity hereafter to extend the redistribution scheme (for a complete redistribution could only be attained by degrees), the wisest plan was to accept the bill as it stood. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in opposing the clause, replied to arguments used in the course of the evening against the general scope of the redistribution scheme, for which, as it now stood, he said, the House shared the responsibility with the Government,—that, with the limited means at his disposal, he had acted fairly to all the claimants for increased representation, though he did not pretend to have done more than approximate justice. At the same time, he denied that the scheme was mean or limited, pointing out that it considerably, though not adequately, increased county representation; that it gave members to new rising towns, and gratified the general feeling of the House that the largest towns ought to have their representation increased. In reply to Mr. Gladstone's and Lord Hartington's arguments he reminded the House that Lancashire, under this bill, would get eight additional members—five borough and three county; and that its result would be that while thirty-two members for Lancashire would represent 66,000 each, eighteen members for Middlesex would represent 122,000 each. The clause was negatived after some remarks from Mr. NEWDEGATE and Colonel SYKES.

Clauses by Mr. GRIFFITH and Lord HENLEY—the first reviving virtually a proposal already discussed and rejected, giving borough, in lieu of county, votes at their option to freeholders, copyholders, and leaseholders within the Parliamentary boundaries of boroughs, and the second altering the time for taking the poll at county elections—were discussed and negatived.

The next clause, moved by Colonel GILPIN, was to shift the sources from which the third members for the four great towns are to be got, by providing that instead of striking Luton, Keighley, Barnsley, and St. Helen's out of Schedule B, the four Parliamentary boroughs next above the line of 10,000 inhabitants shall be deprived of one member.

The clause was supported by Lord F. Cavendish, Mr. H. F. Beaumont (West Riding), Mr. Whitbread and Colonel Stuart (Bedford); and strongly opposed by the members for the threatened boroughs, Mr. Denman and Mr. Walrond (Tiverton), Mr. G. A. Peel and Mr. Repton (Warwick), and Sir R. Peel and Mr. J. Peel (Tamworth).

Sir G. GREY supported the clause on the general ground that it was an extension of the Government programme of redistribution which would tend to make it more permanent.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in opposing the clause, repeated his argument that the House had virtually agreed to a compromise on this question—referring particularly to the divisions on Mr. Laing's and Mr. Serjeant Gaselee's amendments—on which the Government had re-shaped this part of the bill, but which would be violated by the acceptance of this clause, and warned the committee that to depart from it at this late period would disturb a settlement which, though it had never been held out as perfect on the points of arithmetical propriety or political symmetry, had been confirmed by the general sense of the country, and would open up consequences which had never yet been contemplated, and might be the commencement of a new agitation.

Mr. GLADSTONE denied that by any of the preceding divisions the House had been concluded from extending the scheme of disfranchisement so as to obtain the seats needed, either, as proposed by Colonel Gilpin, from the four towns just above the 10,000 line, or from the four just below the 5,000 line, and supported the clause as a valuable contribution towards a permanent settlement.

Colonel GILPIN made a spirited reply, but on a division his clause was rejected by a majority of 29—224 to 195, a result which was received with unusually loud cheering from the Ministerial benches. The committee then adjourned until to-day.

The Courts of Law Officers (Ireland) Bill passed through committee.

Some other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at half-past two o'clock.

MR. WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON.—On Thursday evening a complimentary banquet was given to Mr. W. L. Garrison at Manchester, at the Trevelyan Hotel. Mr. Bazley, M.P., presided, and amongst those present were Mr. George Thompson, Mr. Jacob Bright, Dr. J. Watts, Mr. Alderman R. Heywood (Bolton), Mr. Alderman Harvey (Salford), Professor Jack, Professor Ward, Dr. Borchardt, and Mr. A. Ireland. The adoption of an address of welcome and congratulation to Mr. Garrison was moved by the Rev. S. S. Steinthal, seconded by Dr. J. Watts, supported by Mr. Jacob Bright, and, the motion having been unanimously passed, the address was presented by the chairman. Mr. Garrison responded, and in doing so spoke of the past and present position of the abolitionists in America.

SMS REEVES'S BALLAD CONCERTS.—Mr. Sims Reeves will give his second popular ballad concert on Monday evening next, assisted by a number of eminent vocalists.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

At the meeting of the Legislative Body on Friday, the President announced that the Emperor Maximilian had fallen a victim to a detestable attack. He said:—

A horrible crime has been committed against the laws of war, international right, and humanity. The blood of Maximilian will cling to those by whom it has been shed. Let us protest against this abominable outrage upon the civilisation of our times, and let us attach ourselves still more closely to those generous and liberal principles which led us to consider such an act impossible.

The President's words were received with prolonged marks of approbation.

The French Minister has been recalled from Mexico.

Alluding to the news of the death of Maximilian, the Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* writes:—

The dullness which overspreads the Exhibition will not pass away for many days. The court has gone into mourning; the fêtes are countermanded; the Emperor is in retirement; and men's minds are perplexed with their dreams about the immediate future. The death of Maximilian, the very depressed declare, is a death-blow to the Exhibition. It is, at least, a heavy calamity to the exhibitors who had been doing a good trade with the majesties, excellencies, graces, and lordships, who had been crowding the courts and galleries. The gala carriages may be housed again at Versailles; the flags may be folded; the pyrotechnic artists may pack up their red and blue fire. The last of the sovereigns has come, and soon there will remain in Paris only Napoleon the Third—in no mood for triumphal arches, nor brilliant staff—with the ghost of Maximilian at his elbow. Most of the shopkeepers have been doing a brisk business; it is now the turn of the *maisons de deuil*. The only sovereign in men's minds is the miserable widow of Miramar.

In consequence of the death of the Emperor Maximilian, the American residents in Paris countermanded the fête at the Pré-Catellan which they intended to have held in celebration of the anniversary of American Independence, and gave instead a banquet at the Grand Hotel. Two hundred and fifty guests were present, and toasts were drunk to President Johnson, the Emperor Napoleon, and France.

On the 3rd a grand dinner was given by the Marquis de Moustier to Earl Cowley. Most of the ambassadors in Paris were present. The Marquis de Moustier proposed Lord Cowley's health, and declared that he would leave behind him unalterable reminiscences. Lord Cowley, replying to the toast, paid a tribute to the Emperor and to his policy, and attested the unceasing efforts which had been made by his Majesty to promote good relations between France and England. Among others a speech was made by the Papal Nuncio expressing regret at Lord Cowley's approaching departure.

The *Moniteur* publishes an Imperial decree, preceded by a report of the Minister of War, ordering the abandonment of twenty-nine fortified positions and works, and the suppression of all restrictions on house and landed properties within the lines of fortification of thirty-nine other fortified points in conformity with the report of Marshal Randon of 23rd May, 1866.

The recent war preparations of France cost 6,320,000*l.*, and a supplementary bill to that effect has been presented to the Legislature, and adopted by a large majority.

The review in honour of the Sultan came off in the Champs Elysées on Monday. Altogether there were from 30,000 to 40,000 troops on the ground. The Emperor and the Sultan, both on horseback, surrounded by a gorgeous staff, left the Tuileries shortly before four o'clock, and the inspection of the troops occupied them several hours. The Sultan was mounted on a gorgeously caparisoned Arab horse, which he rose with ease and dignity. Either by accident or design, a considerable number of the regiments which appeared yesterday before the Sultan took part in the Crimean war, and were reviewed in 1854 at Constantinople by his late brother, Abdul Medjid.

The Emperor of Austria is said to have replied to the autograph letter of Napoleon III., and to have assured "his dear brother" that he will come to Paris in October.

The correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, writing on Monday, says:—

There was a heavy fall on the Bourse to-day because it was rumoured that the *Patrie* had received instructions to write a series of articles disagreeable to Prussia; and in effect, when that semi-official sheet appeared, it was found to contain a sharp rebuke to Count Bismarck's organ for trying to excite public opinion in Germany against this country because France called on Prussia to keep the treaty of Prague.

PRUSSIA.

The King of Prussia has arrived at Ems. The Prussian Government have given orders for the completion of the evacuation of Luxembourg.

The chief evocation of the labours of the Zollverein Conference has terminated, and the final draught of the treaty will be drawn up this week. The Prussian proposals have been approved by all the Governments concerned.

The Provincial Diets will be convoked at the end of October next.

Prince Humbert of Italy has left for St. Petersburg. *Leider's Correspondence*, alluding to this visit of the Prince to the Russian Court, states that it is connected with projects of a matrimonial character.

The *New Prussian (Cross) Gazette* publishes intelligence from Paris, according to which the International Monetary Conference has agreed to the following principles:—The standard currency is to be gold, the smallest gold coin to be a five-franc piece, all other gold pieces to be a multiple of five. The monetary uniformity to be based upon the French standard, silver coin only to serve for change; the coin of each State to pass current in the other States.

DENMARK.

An address to the King relative to the question of North Schleswig has, after a brief examination, been unanimously adopted by both Houses of the Legislature. The Ministers who were present on the occasion refrained from expressing any opinion on the subject of the address, but the President of the Council, in his capacity as member of the Landsthing, recorded his vote in its favour.

AUSTRIA.

It is rumoured that Admiral Tegethoff, with a naval squadron, is about to be sent to Mexico to demand the remains of the late Emperor Maximilian.

The *Official Gazette* contains an autograph letter from the Emperor decreeing that, in grateful memory of the distinguished services rendered to the Imperial fleet by the deceased Emperor of Mexico, a solemn funeral service shall be held throughout the Austrian navy. All ships in commission shall also have their topmost flags veiled with crape for a period of seven weeks.

ITALY.

Signor Ferrara, the Minister of Finance, has tendered his resignation, which has been accepted by the King. It is thought that he will be succeeded by Signor Cordova.

In Friday's sitting of the Chamber of Deputies the Ecclesiastical Property Bill came on for discussion. Some of the members opposed the bill as contrary to liberty, justice, and the financial interests of the country. Others supported it on the ground that the clergy were hostile to Italy. Signor Ratazzi stated that the Ministry consented to accept the bill, as modified by the committee, as a basis for discussion by the Chamber, reserving to themselves the right of introducing modifications to certain clauses. He also said that the banking firm with whom the conventions were entered into had spontaneously declared themselves willing to withdraw them, and to consider the contract as abandoned, leaving to the Ministry full liberty in the discussions. Signor Ratazzi then gave some other explanations as to the proposed contract with Messrs. Erlanger, and declared that this firm had also given their consent to the bill of the committee being made the basis of discussion.

TURKEY.

The Porte has conferred four superior appointments on Christians, three of whom are Greeks and one an Armenian. They have been respectively nominated Deputy-Governors of Salonica, Smyrna, the Dardanelles, and Yanina.

The Sultan has asked the British Government to send out a board of naval officers to Constantinople to administer the affairs of the Turkish navy.

AMERICA.

By Atlantic cable we learn that Lord Monck had been sworn in as Viceroy of Canada, that Congress had reassembled, a quorum of representatives being present, and that the Foreign Legion has arrived at Mobile from Mexico.

On the 27th of June the Presidential party arrived at Hartford, and were cordially received by the Governor and the Connecticut Legislature. Mr. Johnson, in a brief speech, expressed his gratification at the kind reception he had received in New England, and declared that if his political judgment erred it was an error of the head, not of the heart. All his efforts had been honestly directed for the public good.

The Pennsylvania Republican Convention has passed a resolution strongly condemning the policy of President Johnson.

Surratt's counsel are attempting to prove an alibi for the prisoner on the night of the assassination.

Advices from Mexico announce that General Santa Anna has been shot, and that Vera Cruz had fallen.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The Nile is rising, and there is every prospect of abundant crops in Egypt.

A correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* says the Austrian Government fully intend to propose a revision of the concordate.

The total number of prizes awarded at the Paris Exhibition is as follows:—64 grand prix, 883 gold medals, 3,635 silver medals, 6,565 bronze medals, and 5,801 honourable mentions.

A telegram from Vienna says that the Sultan has accepted an invitation from the Emperor of Austria. Nothing is yet decided about his Majesty visiting Berlin.

THE PORK DISEASE IN GERMANY.—The trichinosis, which was thought to have died out in Germany, has again shown itself in Halberstadt (Lower Saxony). A considerable number of the inhabitants, and amongst them children only three years old, have been affected.

THE FRENCH CLERGY AND THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—We read in the *Sigle*:—"The Bishop of Nantes has just addressed a pastoral letter to his clergy,

pointing out the danger of universal exhibitions, and forbidding them to visit the Palace of the Champ de Mars. We should be curious to see what argument the prelate uses to consider as injurious the sight of the grandeurs accompanied by human genius."

THE FATE OF DR. LIVINGSTONE.—The Bombay Government has received despatches from Dr. Seward, the British consul at Zanzibar, dated April 28th, stating that many natives had just arrived at the East Coast from the country where Dr. Livingstone's murder is alleged to have taken place, but that they had heard no rumours regarding it. Dr. Seward expresses strong hopes of the doctor's safety.

VICTOR HUGO was last week in Paris. The object of his visit was to witness the success of his play, "Hernani," at the Français. There is no reason, except his own disinclination (says the *Daily News* correspondent), why Victor Hugo should not have come to Paris long ago, for he was not excepted from the general amnesty; but an impression, greatly encouraged by himself, prevailed that the Jersey exile would not set foot in France so long as Napoleon III. reigned over it.

ANTI-SLAVERY CONGRESS IN PARIS.—The international meeting of the London, Madrid, and Paris Societies for the Abolition of Slavery will take place on the 23rd or 27th of August. Reports will be given on the state of slavery in all parts of the known world, and on the actual and future condition of the enfranchised slaves of the United States. The speakers at these meetings will be men from Brazil, Cuba, and Northern America. Lord Brougham is president of the English society, and M. Edouard Laboulaye of the French, the Duke of Broglie and M. Guizot being honorary presidents of the latter.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON'S HEALTH.—A correspondent in Paris writes to the *British Medical Journal*:—"During the last week there has been a good deal of uneasiness at Court concerning the relapse of the Emperor into the painful symptoms with which he was last year affected. The attack of renal colic, which the *Moniteur* officially described as lumbago with headache, has left behind further symptoms, which have induced the Emperor's physicians to counsel as early a close as State reasons will allow of the Court festivities, in order that he may have the benefit of treatment by mineral waters. Meantime, he is forbidden horse exercise and the pleasures of the table. The little Prince Imperial has recovered his strength wonderfully, and seems to be very well, to the great delight of all here."

PROPOSED PEACE CONGRESS AT GENEVA.—Professor Jules Barin, of Geneva, well known in the Swiss literary world as the translator of Kant, and the author of some sharp criticisms on the works of M. Thiers, has proposed that a Peace Congress should be held at Geneva next September. This proposal was debated the other day in the section for Moral and Political Science of the National Institute at Geneva, on which occasion the professor explained his plan. "The war," he said, "which threatened us a few weeks ago has fortunately been averted, but it is necessary that the agitation in favour of peace to which this danger gave rise should be continued. I propose that the centre of this agitation be Geneva, which has already done great services to humanity. It was in this town that the Congress for the relief of the wounded in battle was started and held. We should now aim at a higher object—that there should be no war, and consequently no wounded soldiers." M. James Fazy next observed that the only way of attaining this object would be to establish a European Confederation, represented by a standing committee—a sort of permanent international Parliament—which would take the necessary steps for pacification whenever Europe was threatened with war. After several other speakers had expressed their approval of the plan, the meeting agreed to take part in the proposed Congress.

THE ABYSSINIAN CAPTIVES.—We are enabled to give our readers the latest news concerning the British captives in Abyssinia. Letters up to the 1st of May show that their situation was then unchanged. They saw no intention whatever on the part of the king to set them at liberty; on the contrary, his exasperation against the Europeans seems to increase with his waning authority. Since our last published information he has ordered all the German artisans, as also Mrs. Rosenthal and Mrs. Flad, to be removed from Gaffat and placed in confinement at Debra Tabor. Several preposterous charges have been brought against the Germans, who, being regarded by Theodoros as his *employés* or slaves, are likely to fare worse at his hands than their fellow-sufferers at Magdala. It is not stated whether Mr. Flad had been able to prosecute his journey from Matamma; but great fears of his fate were entertained in the event of his reaching the royal camp without the English artisans and the presents from the British Government. A letter, dated one day later than the above, represents the captives at Magdala as in hourly expectation of being sent to the common prison. Theodoros had ordered the massacre of 200 of the chiefs, and our countrymen entertained the most gloomy foreboding that their turn would soon come to be numbered among his victims.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.—[According to Indian accounts, Colonel Merewether had returned to Massowah, whence he forwarded an ultimatum to the Emperor Theodoros demanding the release of the Abyssinian captive. Internal dissensions are said to have deprived the Emperor of all but a small portion of his territory.]

THE SHEFFIELD TRADES OUTRAGES.

At the sitting of the Commissioners on Tuesday, the crime known as the Acorn-street murder was the subject of investigation. This outrage was committed in the autumn of 1861 under the following circumstances:—A dispute having arisen between Mr. H. E. Hoole, of the Green-lane Works, and his stove-grate and fender grinders, the unionists struck work, upon which Mr. Hoole engaged non-unionists to take their places. Amongst these was a man named George Wastnidge, who came from Masbro', and who, along with his wife and a boy, went to reside in Acorn-street. No sooner had the new hands got to work than they were subjected to great annoyance and ill-usage from the unionists. A serious attempt was made to injure Wastnidge. On the night of the 23rd of November, 1861, the whole of the family were in bed before eleven o'clock. Somewhere about midnight Mrs. Wastnidge was awoken by a crash of glass. She went downstairs to look after their lodger, named Bridget O'Rourke, and found her standing in the middle of the room, in her night-dress, holding in her hand "a parcel," from which sparks of fire were issuing. Whilst the infernal machine was being passed from the hands of the one to the other, it exploded. Mrs. Wastnidge was blinded by the explosion, and with her night-dress in flames found her way back to the garret to her husband. The house had by this time caught fire, and the neighbours brought a ladder to rescue the inmates. Mrs. Wastnidge, regardless of the fact that she was in a state of nudity, got out of the window, but missed the ladder and fell head foremost to the ground. She was picked up half dead, sadly scorched, and insensible. Mr. Wastnidge, with his boy in his arms, was unable to make his escape, and the spectators called to him to throw the boy down. The child was caught uninjured, and Wastnidge made his escape by the ladder. The missing lodger was found in the cellar in a state of nudity, and frightfully scorched. She died from the injuries she had received. Mrs. Wastnidge was dreadfully injured, but at length recovered. Joseph Thompson, one of the men on strike, was apprehended on suspicion. It was proved that he had threatened Wastnidge, that a few hours before the murder he bought a fuse and a large quantity of powder, and other suspicious circumstances were mentioned. The jury said they believed that Thompson bought the powder and the fuse, but they thought the evidence of Mrs. Wastnidge was weak, and therefore they acquitted the prisoner.—A man named Robert Renshaw, who appeared in court in a state of partial intoxication, made a full confession that he had perpetrated the deed. He said that a person named Samuel Cutter, a stove-grate grinder, asked him to go and "knock a man on the head for 10s.," but he refused, though he afterwards agreed to blow up this man Wastnidge; and Cutter gave him 10s. to buy powder, telling him to use 3lbs., though he only used one. He was to have had 6l., but he never got it.—Mr. Overend: Did you see Mrs. O'Rourke brought out? Witness: Yes, I helped to get her out.—Mr. Overend: Did you see Mrs. Wastnidge? Witness: Yes, she jumped out.—Mr. Overend: You helped to bring Mrs. O'Rourke out? Witness: Yes, and I was grieved when I saw her. You know it was her own fault. She was soft.—Witness afterwards said he got 3l., which was paid him by a man named Baylis, who was with Cutter when the matter was proposed.—Mr. Overend subsequently asked: For what reason were you to do this? Witness: Why, for money, to be sure.—Mr. Overend: Yes, but what had the man done? Witness: I had never seen him in my life. I was asked to go and do it.—Mr. Overend: Yes; but why? Witness: Oh, of course you know; he was wrong in the trade.—Mr. Overend: Did they say so? Witness: Of course they did; they wanted him doing. Baylis was in the same line, and so is Cutter.—Mr. Overend: Had Cutter been at work at Hoole's? Witness: It doesn't matter, man, whether they worked at Hoole's or not. They want the thing doing, and they got poor — like me to do it.

On Wednesday, several additional cases of "ratting" were deposed to. James Robinson, a brick-manufacturer, said that because he was obnoxious to the union he had been subjected to a number of outrages. He at one time had 17,000 bricks spoilt; an attempt had been made to blow him up by infernal machines; a cow and a horse belonging to him had been stabbed, and attempts had been made to destroy his hayricks.

The inquiry was brought to a conclusion on Saturday. Persons who have given evidence before the Commission, and have criminated themselves by their disclosures, were allowed to apply for certificates on Monday. Among those who were thus protected were Broadhead, Hallam, and Crookes. It is a very slight satisfaction to know that these miscreants have had their coats—for which one of them had the impertinence to apply—disallowed.

It is stated that an inquiry will shortly be commenced into the operations of the trades unions in Manchester, Stockport, and the surrounding districts, and principally into the doings of the bricklayers' societies, in that neighbourhood.

At a crowded meeting of the London Trade Unionists, held in Exeter Hall on Tuesday night, for the purpose of expressing their "surprise, indignation and horror at the crimes committed by Broadhead and his accomplices at Sheffield," the following

speech, which has excited much indignant comment, was delivered by Professor Beesly:—

He was of opinion that a murder committed by trades unionists was no better or no worse than any other murder, and he thought that when the meeting was over enough would have been said of the Sheffield atrocities. The frequent assumption of an apologetic attitude was destructive to self-respect, and he said so regardless of the probability that the use of the expression on that occasion would induce certain persons to stigmatise him as an apologist for murder. No one abhorred murder more than he did. It was well known that he subscribed money for the purpose of having a murderer punished—a murderer who committed his crimes in the interest of his employers, just as Broadhead did it in the interest of workmen. The individual to whom he referred, instead of being answerable for a few murders, was responsible for four hundred murders, and he was now at large, not on a certificate of indemnity, but because a bench of magistrates of his own class refused to send the case before a jury. He saw no reason why the trades unionist should take blame or shame to themselves for what had been done at Sheffield; he saw no reason why they should hold their heads an inch less high, or abate their demands upon the Legislature. The middle class would go on talking about the outrages for a long time, but he hoped they would thwart the object thus sought, namely, to divert their minds from their claims upon Government. The law, as it stood, made a police-magistrate commit more crimes in a week than Broadhead committed in a year. If a tailor told another tailor that he would not work with him, he was brought before the magistrate and committed for trial before a jury of employers and a bench of middle-class magistrates, and sent to the treadmill. The law, also, while punishing ratting by trades unionists, encouraged ratting against them, and afforded them no protection whatever, and the result was that a sense of wrong from defects of the legislature made men outstep the bounds of legality. He hoped that when a new election came the candidates for the votes of the large constituencies would be asked to explain their views on this question.

In a letter (the second on the subject) to the *Daily News* of this morning Professor Beesly proves by quotations from his own articles in the *Beehive* and letters written by him to trade societies, that he has placed himself in an unfavourable light by these remarks, and that he has always strongly urged the members of those bodies to proceed with the utmost rigour against any of their number that were guilty of violence or intimidation. Mr. Beesly also encloses a letter from Mr. Applegarth, secretary of the Amalgamated Carpenters' Society, which was sent to the *Times* but not admitted, in which he says:—"On the day on which Broadhead's confessions appeared in the *Times* I was in conversation with Professor Beesly, and he not only denounced the outrages equally with myself, but assured me that it would be useless for the unions to expect the public to entirely acquit them of all complicity in future crimes without more was done to prove our sincerity than had been done; for Broadhead himself had gone as far as the unions had in repudiating the crimes of the past. He further and emphatically assured me that the proper course was for those connected with the unions to ferret out any member guilty of a breach of the law and drag him to justice."

ALEXANDRA ORPHANAGE FOR INFANTS.

The foundation-stone of the Alexandra Orphanage for Infants was laid on Saturday by the Duchess of Sutherland, Countess of Cromartie, at Horneyrise. A large assembly of persons witnessed the ceremony. The band of the Royal Caledonian Asylum and a police band were upon the grounds, playing alternately before and after the ceremony. The infants belonging to the orphanage, together with some of the inmates of the Haverstock-hill Orphan Working School, were present, and acted as a guard of honour to the chief visitors, who included Lord and Lady Granville, Lady Florence Gower, Lord H. Vane, Lady Vane, the Marchioness of Kildare, the Duchess of San Alipino, the Hon. Mr. Gower, M.P., the Rev. Dr. Cumming, the Rev. D. Wilson, vicar of Islington, the Revs. Newman Hall, J. Corbin, J. Fleming, and W. Roberts; C. E. Mudie, Esq., W. Williams, Esq., &c. The charity was established in 1864, and in the space of two years and a-half ninety applications for admission were received. Of these sixty have been granted. The intention is to erect a central building for schools, dining-hall, and domestic offices, and on either side separate houses for the accommodation of twenty-five infants each, every house to be under the charge of competent nurses. The houses will be connected with the central building by a covered way, so that the little inmates may move about regardless of weather. Each house will have a distinct playground. Two ordinary houses in the neighbourhood are at present being occupied for the purposes of the orphanage. The committee in their second annual report make a very urgent appeal for funds, which is clearly justified by their statement that although a donor offered to give 1,000l. for building if another 1,000l. could be raised to help to pay for the land, only 200l. has been received in response to the challenge. It is hoped eventually to build sixteen houses, but only half that number will be attempted at present. The Duchess of Sutherland took the place at the foundation-stone that would have been taken by the Princess of Wales had that lady been well enough to attend. On the arrival of the duchess in the marquee erected for the occasion a hymn was sung; the Rev. D. Wilson, vicar of Islington, read a chapter from the Bible; and a prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Cumming. Another hymn having

been sung, Mr. J. Soul, the honorary secretary, read an address to the duchess explaining the nature and objects of the charity, thanking her for her presence, and praying that she might long be spared to help the widow and orphan, so that the blessing of the destitute might be upon her. A handsome copy of the address was presented to the duchess, who read the following speech in acknowledgment:—

Ladies and Gentlemen,—In reply to the kind words just addressed to me, you must allow me to say it is with mingled feelings of embarrassment and pride at the request of this committee, and with the sanction of her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, that I take most unworthily her place in laying the first stone of this building, which is to bear her name. In adverting to the sad cause by which this ceremony is deprived of so much of its brilliancy and charm, I believe I express not only my own feelings, but those of every woman here, when I say that the devoted attachment and admiration felt for the Princess of Wales from the day when her royal highness first touched the shores of England have been increased in us tenfold by the courage and cheerful brightness with which she has borne the long suffering and illness from which, by the blessing of God, she is now so nearly recovered. This good work, the national end and objects of which we have just heard described, must deeply interest every heart that has itself known or given to others a parent's care. May the Alexandra Orphanage prosper as it deserves!

This unexpected addition to the speeches of the day was loudly applauded. Mr. Barlow, the treasurer, next formally asked the duchess to lay the foundation-stone; Mr. Soul, the secretary, read the record upon it; Mr. A. R. Pite, the architect, stepped forward and explained the plans and elevations of the various buildings; Mr. J. S. Soul submitted a cleverly-constructed model, which he intends to give to the charity. The usual bottle, with its usual contents, was lowered into its tomb in the centre of the stone, and the customary leaping upon the seats by the ladies and gentlemen in front indicated to those behind that the ceremony of the day was being gone through. The trowel with which her grace performed her amateur bricklaying was manufactured by Mr. J. W. Benson, and was really worth her acceptance, for it was extremely handsome and apposite. It was of richly-engraved silver parcel gilt, and decorated with precious stones. Upon the heart-shaped blade a picture to illustrate the verse, "Suffer little children to come unto me," was chased; also some inscriptions as to the charity and the occasion. The handle was made of jasper, and ornamented with the ducal crown, monograms, coronets, and royal plumes, and at the junction of the handle with the blade were two little figures of a boy and a girl bearing a shield containing the Princess of Wales's monogram, and the happy motto of the institution, "Take this child, and nurse him for me." The stone having been declared "well and truly laid," several contributions in purses were presented, and a newly-composed hymn in praise of "Our pretty home, our pretty home," was sung in conclusion by the chubby little infants.

The company afterwards partook of a *dejeuner* at the further end of the tent. Earl Granville took the chair, and a few toasts were given, "Success to the Alexandra Orphanage for Infants" being the chief. In concluding an excellent speech on behalf of the charity, his lordship expressed a hope that when erected on its magnificent site, overlooking one of the richest cities in the world, the institution would fulfil the expectations of its firmest friends.

Mr. Wortley returned thanks on behalf of the Orphanage; Mr. Broadwater, and the architect, Mr. Pite, responded for "The Committee and Honorary Officers of the Charity"; and Judge Payne, in a humorous and characteristic speech, embodying verses made in honour of the occasion, proposed "The Ladies."

The donations acknowledged amounted to 4,929*l.*, of which it transpired that upwards of 2,000*l.* had been collected by Miss Soul. There are some hopes that the orphanage will be opened next year by the Princess of Wales.

Miscellaneous News.

UNIVERSITY FOR WALES.—A public meeting of those interested in the movement for establishing a University in Wales, was held in the Music Hall, Swansea, on Tuesday evening. The mayor (T. Phillips, Esq.) presided. Resolutions were unanimously passed declaring that the time had arrived when effective steps should be taken to secure for Wales a great extension of educational advantages, and that it was desirable to establish immediately a University for the Principality, whose basis shall be entirely free from all political, sectarian, and party influences. The speakers were the chairman, Major Francis, Mr. A. P. Wilks, Mr. D. M. Thomas, the Rev. W. Jones, Mr. T. Rees, the Rev. J. Whitby, and Mr. Lewis. Mr. Thomas, in the course of his speech, said that they considered that they were called upon to redress a state of things which was not at all satisfactory—to remedy a great anomaly. In Scotland there were four universities, which had been established for years, and where 4,000 Scotchmen were continually receiving a university education and advantages. In Ireland there were three colleges and a Queen's University, beside the Dublin University and the Belfast Institution, to say nothing of Oxford, Cambridge, and London, and those established elsewhere. They thought they were entitled so come to this conclusion—that no part of her Majesty's dominions was so badly off with respect to such colleges as Wales was; and they fancied that what was good for other parts would be good for it

also. (Hear, hear.) They were confirmed in this opinion when they considered that Wales had now a population of some million and a quarter souls. It was intended to obtain 50,000*l.* for the establishment of the University.

ROYAL VISIT TO THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.—On Wednesday last, the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond-street, was honoured by the presence of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse, and H.R.H. the Princess Louise, attended by the Baroness Schenck and Captain Von Westerweller. The royal visitors were received by the chairman of the managing committee, Viscount Gort, Dr. Jenner, Dr. Hillier, the lady superintendent, and the secretary, Mr. Samuel Whitford. Their Royal Highnesses evinced much satisfaction in their inspection of the wards, and appeared interested in the little patients, to whom kindly words were graciously addressed; many inquiries were made concerning arrangements for the treatment and comfort of the sick, and the means for amusement and recreation of the convalescent children. One of the convalescent patients, a little girl, four years old, wore clothing made entirely by the Princess Hesse; the Princess Louise, having also, on several occasions sent presents of clothing made expressly for these poor children. The Princesses expressed much pleasure on hearing that in the large garden attached to the hospital, the little patients could enjoy a picnic on the grass plat, overshadowed by fine trees. The Princess Hesse has a similar hospital for children, at Darmstadt, under her own immediate care.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN KING, OF IPSWICH.—It is our mournful duty to record the death of Mr. John King, the proprietor, and up to within the past few years the editor, of the *Suffolk Chronicle*. We cannot allow the opportunity to pass without saying that Mr. King's career as a journalist at a time when political feeling ran high and great principles were at stake, was characterised by the strictest fidelity to measures which he conceived were calculated to promote the public good, and unflinching advocacy in which there was a freshness and vigour which could not fail to command respect where it failed to ensure conviction. Mr. King was not the man to sacrifice conscience to popularity. To measures rather than men he looked; and he experienced no small delight as those principles of earlier days gradually commended themselves to public confidence. He was a humble member of the successful army of pioneers who saw ahead of their times, and who helped to sow the seed which we, in these peaceful times of Tory-Radicalism, are reaping as a harvest. His political creed was founded upon the belief that the greatest freedom, civil and religious, was not incompatible with national progress and individual happiness, and to that creed he consistently held. He looked upon politics as a serious business of life, and although there have been far more brilliant advocates, we shall be pardoned if we say that for honest conscientiousness he was not excelled. In earlier days, and in a quiet, unobtrusive way, the deceased gentleman aided various institutions of the town; but his declining years had been spent in almost complete retirement from public life.—*Suffolk Chronicle*.

THE TRADES UNION COMMISSION AND MR. ROEBUCK.—Mr. Roebuck, who is one of the Trades Union Commission, has caused Connolly, a stone-mason, to be expelled from the sittings of the Commissioners as a delegate of the unions, for having, at a meeting of working men at Exeter Hall, asked what better things than outrages could be expected of a town like Sheffield, which returned a man like Mr. Roebuck as a representative. At the meeting of the London Trades Council on Saturday night a discussion took place about Mr. Connolly's "difficulty" with Mr. Roebuck and Professor Beesly's speech at Exeter Hall. Mr. Harry (carpenter) thought it desirable that at the meeting of Thursday Mr. Connolly, though not connected with the London Trades Council, should be invited to attend, in order to give him an opportunity to explain the facts of the case. A resolution to this effect was agreed to. Mr. Odger regretted that Professor Beesly's speech at Exeter Hall had been misunderstood by the press, and construed as if the learned professor approved murder. The trades unionists believed that after Professor Beesly denounced murder as a most atrocious crime he simply expressed his belief that more had been made of Broadhead's crimes than there would have been had he not been a trades unionist. It was to be regretted that, after the wise counsel Professor Beesly had from time to time given the working men, he should be now so misrepresented. Mr. Sainsbury (plasterer) concurred in the remarks of Mr. Odger, and after some discussion the proceedings terminated.

THE AFFAIRS OF MESSRS. PETO, BETTS, AND CO.—A communication has been addressed to the inspectors of the estate of Messrs. Peto, Betts, and Crampton, by Messrs. Maynard, the solicitor to that firm, announcing the necessity for placing the liquidation under the jurisdiction of the Court of Bankruptcy—a measure rendered unavoidable by the extraordinary claim just set up by the directors of the London, Chatham, and Dover Company. The communication states:—"You are aware that Messrs. Peto, Betts, and Crampton, in the statement of their affairs, claimed a balance to be due to them from the London, Chatham, and Dover Company of upwards of 380,000*l.*, besides which they were liable to claims on the part of creditors to the amount of upwards of 2,000,000*l.*, who held as security only some of the various stocks of the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company. It was understood that the London, Chatham, and Dover Company disputed the amount claimed to be due from them; but within the last few days only an account has been received

from that company, by which they claim to be due to them from Messrs. Peto, Betts, and Crampton no less a sum than 6,661,941*l.*, exclusive of interest. The questions which arise upon this account are of a description which we think it quite impossible to deal with by means of the powers afforded by a deed of inspection, and we have therefore no difficulty in advising, as the course best calculated to secure and promote the interests of the creditors at large, that the deed of inspection should not be extended; but that the necessary steps should be taken for liquidating the estate in bankruptcy." An adjudication of bankruptcy was on Wednesday made against the first. The petitioning creditor is Mr. Warden, Railway Ironworks, Edgbaston.

THE DUCHESS OF NEWCASTLE AS A VOCALIST.—A very exceptional performance attracted an enormous audience on Wednesday night to Exeter Hall. The oratorio was Herr Schachner's "Israel's Return from Babylon." The attraction, however, was not "Israel's Return from Babylon," but the circumstances under which it was allowed to vex the ears of a submissive public. The most engaging, if not the most exacting part in "Israel's Return from Babylon" (as Handel also wrote an "Israel" it is necessary to cite at each reference the full title) is that of the principal soprano; and one of the most engaging next to the principal soprano is that of the second soprano. The wife of an English duke and the wife of an English bishop were the sole sopranos at this, by far the liveliest performance of Herr Schachner's oratorio to which we have enjoyed the privilege of listening. These amiable and distinguished ladies came valiantly forward on behalf of an excellent charity, and, as the French say, "*payaient de leurs personnes*." The Duchess of Newcastle and Mrs. Ellicott are accomplished singers. They sing in time; they sing in tune; and, what is as important as either and both, they sing with genuine and unaffected expression. Mrs. Ellicott—to judge from our hearing—has the more powerful, the Duchess of Newcastle the sweeter voice. It is almost superfluous to add that both were applauded in every phrase (and Herr Schachner's oratorio does not abound in such phrases) into which it was possible to throw anything approaching to expression. Mrs. Ellicott's delivery of the so-called "*cavatina*," "Come not, O Lord" (Part II.), produced a sensible impression; while the intensely earnest feeling which the Duchess of Newcastle gave to the recitative, "Lift up your eyes unto the Heavens," brought down a hearty, spontaneous, and enthusiastic *encore*—an *encore* which was accorded to with the best possible grace. The same compliment was paid to the Duchess in the duet (in canon), "Hark! 'tis the breeze of twilight calling" (Part III.), in which her associate was Mr. Hohlen.—*Daily Paper*.

ASYLUM FOR FATHERLESS CHILDREN.—The twenty-third anniversary of this institution, situate at Reedham, near Croydon, took place on Tuesday week, when the proceedings attracted a numerous party of friends both from London and the immediate neighbourhood. A special train conveyed visitors from town to Caterham Junction, amongst whom were many of those who have taken a warm interest in this charity from its commencement. Mr. Sargood, in the absence of Mr. Sheriff Lycey, presided over the proceedings of the day in the hall of the asylum, and Mr. Saunders, of the Borough-road Institution, examined the children. The children were tested in reading, in history, in English grammar, in Scripture, in geography, and mental arithmetic. The programme was greatly enlivened by the children singing with great sweetness and precision several attractive little melodies. The examination of the infant school was, as usual, a most interesting feature in the day's programme. At half-past two o'clock the company adjourned to a spacious marquee on the lawn, where an abundant luncheon awaited them, and where, after due justice had been done to the liberal *carte* provided, the chairman, Mr. Sargood, gave the usual loyal toasts, and afterwards the sentiment of the day—"Prosperity to the Reedham Asylum." He congratulated the assembly on the success of that day's proceedings, which were of a character to endear the institution to all who were interested in the welfare of orphan children. Referring to the financial condition of the asylum, he was sorry to say that somehow or another they could not get rid of a debt that still burdened their efforts, a sum from 800*l.* to 1,000*l.*, which had been incurred for improvements in the arrangements of the establishment. He trusted before they left the debt that hung over the undertaking would be cleared off. The Rev. T. Aveling proposed one to whom they had been indebted that day for both amusement and instruction—Mr. Saunders. He had been a warm friend to the institution, and had ever devoted to its service those superior attainments with which God had endowed him. (Cheers.) The toast was received with enthusiasm. Mr. Saunders, in response, congratulated the friends of the Reedham Asylum on the admirable results of the training the children had undergone. He visited many similar institutions in the course of his experience, and he could say with confidence that the Reedham Asylum, as an educational institution, was second to none in the country, and would commend itself to the generous feeling and support of any Christian community. The Chairman then performed the most interesting ceremony of the day—the presentation of prizes to the children who had excelled in various branches of learning. The prizes consisted of books, writing-desks, &c., and as the competitors came up to receive them they were loudly cheered. The Rev. Dr. Raleigh briefly addressed the children. A vote of thanks was passed to the chairman, and the company dispersed, to ramble in the picturesque grounds of the asylum.

Literature.

"THE LIFE AND DEATH OF JASON."

The appearance of this volume suggests the question, Are we in the midst of an unexpected classical revival? A few years ago its publication would have been almost an impossibility. Then we were all in the very crisis of the Festus-fever. The central figure in almost every poem of any length or pretensions, was a moody, self-conscious, self-analytical being, a sort of living embodiment of the speculative spirit of the hour, charged with the task of uttering aloud the profound doubts and anxious questionings with which the finer order of spirits were supposed to be distracted. Such aims in composition criticism deliberately approved. The poet's "mission" was "to interpret the age to itself" (whatever that may mean). The noblest task that remained for a modern poet to accomplish was to produce "an allegorical representation of his own subjective 'moods.'" To these doctrines criticism added a special clause. The subject of a poem was held to be a matter of no consequence provided only the poet could "have his say." Anything of the nature of a plot or story it might seem to contain, was but a framework intended to give a semblance of connection to the mighty thoughts, the startling images, the pregnant sayings, the passionate speeches, the delicious descriptions, which the poet might desire to string together. In other words, a poem existed solely for the sake of the number of fine passages—of quotable lines—which could be crowded into it.

Now-a-days we seem to have changed all that. Here is a poem in fifteen books and three hundred and sixty-three pages long, which has nothing to say about any one of these exciting problems which were so recently agitating the modern mind to its depths. It deals solely with the objective and outward. It doesn't contain a single reflection from beginning to end. It is absolutely without the "modern touches" which form the chief charm of so many classical imitations. There are not as many quotable lines in it as there are pages. Its subject is a great action, and to the action everything else is subordinated; the poet's chief care is to tell a story in the distinctest manner, and set it in the clearest and brightest lights. In his subject he suffers his whole being to be absorbed. He seems, as it were, to clasp his lyre in his arms, fix his gaze on the far-off time and the distant Thessalian land, and sing of what he sees without the smallest reference to, or consciousness of, himself or the present hour. We have no intention of comparing them together, or of depreciating either; we only observe that from "Festus" or "A Life Drama"—poems which may be taken as the master-pieces of a distinct school among the last generation of our minor poets—to "Jason" and other recent works, though perhaps a gradual, is a most wonderful and surprising change.

This, however, is a reflection which the most superficial examination of Mr. Morris's work would suggest. To speak of it more particularly, his poem too is a masterpiece in its way. It may safely be affirmed that the old, often treated Argonautic story loses nothing in his hands. It has never been told so fully or so well. The ancient legends are fused into an harmonious whole. His characters attain and keep the proper heroic pitch and level. Jason in the end proves faithless and ungrateful; but that undying, kingly thirst for action and renown, which must have constituted his chief attraction in the eyes of the ancient world, making him the central figure of more legends—the subject of more exquisite song and fanciful story, than almost any other of its heroes, is kept ever in sight, to shed a redeeming, purifying light over and around him. Medea, again, is not the loathly witch of modern fable. Though she is the awful sorceress whose spells can almost lay compulsion on the heavenly powers, she is yet young and fair, and keeps warm in her heart a place for love. There are few finer things in Euripides than the passage in which the murderess-mother weeps over the children she has vowed to slay; and into this portion of the story Mr. Morris is wise and modest enough not to follow the ancient tragedian. But he has contrived to draw such a picture of tried love and unprovoked sorrow, as to invest Medea with tenderer claims to sympathy than the older poets have deemed consonant with her history and crime.

*The Life and Death of Jason. A Poem. By WILLIAM MORRIS. London: Ball and Daldy.

Indebted to the ancient classics for his subject, Mr. Morris is indebted to them directly for little else. It is true we notice in him that sobriety of taste which is so strongly characteristic of Attic tragedy; and too that moderation of judgment, good sense, conscientiousness of workmanship, quietness of tone, control over his own imagination, freedom from all exaggeration and strain, and simplicity of speech, which would seem to be almost exclusively the property of those poets who have made the ancient models their study. (Shall we venture to add that we do not observe traces of the elaboration and condensation which also were among the characteristic virtues of classical composition?) But no one must come to his pages expecting to find more or less clever and enjoyable classical imitations. Mr. Morris is an English poet, and has written a thoroughly English poem—a most original, sweet, and graceful poem, led us add once for all—which English readers, who never heard of the Argonauts before in their lives, may read through, as we did, spellbound from the first page to the last. His great master in versification has been Chaucer, and he has a great deal of Chaucer's ease and flow, though by the way he seems to us to allow himself more roughness, and to make more use of perplexing, inharmonious pauses than his master. The depths of reflection, the more daring heights of imagination, Mr. Morris carefully avoids. But for bountiful grace of fancy, picturesqueness, a soft melody varied by strange, sweet cadences which sound like the echoes of some earlier lay, and purity of language, this poem will bear comparison with any recently published. It is almost useless to give extracts from it. A poem which professes only to tell a story, the groundwork of which is human action and passion, the interest of which centres solely in the process of incident and the development of character, can be judged only as a whole; and to quote from it is very like offering the reader a brick from Babylon. The following is given, not because it is the best, but because it is the shortest lyric in the book, and the one that will suffer least by being detached from the context. It is the chant with which one of the sea-nymphs lulls the ill-fated Hylas to his last sleep, and seems to us redolent of mystery and dream, in strict keeping with its supposed origin and intent:—

"SONG."

"I know a little garden close
Set thick with lily and red rose,
Where I would wander if I might
From daisy down to daisy night,
And have one with me wandering.
And though within it no birds sing,
And though no pillared house is there
And though the apple boughs are bare
Of fruit and blossom, would to God,
Her feet upon the green grass trod,
And I beheld them as before.
There comes a murmur from the shore,
And in the place two fair streams are,
Drawn from the purple hills afar,
Drawn down unto the restless sea;
The hills whose flowers ne'er fed the bee,
The shore no ship has ever seen,
Still beaten by the billows green.
Whose murmur comes unceasingly
Unto the place for which I cry.
For which I cry both day and night,
For which I let slip all delight,
That maketh me both deaf and blind,
Careless to win, unskilled to find,
And quick to lose what all men seek.
Yet tottering as I am and weak,
Still have I left a little breath
To seek within the jaws of death
An entrance to that happy place,
To seek the unforgotten face
Once seen, once kissed, once reft from me
Amid the murmuring of the sea."

We would willingly quote more. Meanwhile this little specimen will be sufficient to convince the reader that the high praise we have bestowed upon this work is not all undeserved; that in Mr. Morris we have, not a great, but a new and genuine poet, possessed of rare and peculiar gifts; and that "Jason" must be regarded as a most valuable contribution to contemporary English poetry.

CARL RITTER.*

The life of Carl Ritter has a twofold interest;—it supplies to the student of physical geography an important chapter in the history of his science, and it also affords a beautiful example to the larger class who love to trace the footsteps of a noble and unselfish nature. Truly it is no small stimulus to those whose aspirations droop amid the hard realities of life, to observe how, by a life of labour and a character of artless simplicity and goodness, a poor orphan won his way to unwonted reverence and distinction. The refreshment of such a pure

*The Life of Carl Ritter, late Professor of Geography in the University of Berlin. By W. L. GAGE. William Blackwood and Sons.

ennobling story we can promise the readers of this book.

Ritter was born near Magdeburg in 1779. He was the son of an eminent physician, but was early left, with five other orphans, to the care of a widowed mother, ill provided with material wealth, but richly endowed with courage and piety.

In 1784 Salzmann established at Schnepfenthal, a beautiful spot on the borders of the Thuringian forest, and near to the city of Gotha, a school for boys, in order to work out there a theory of education "according to nature," which Rousseau had propounded. All the powers, physical, mental, and moral, were to be carefully trained, a thoroughly self-reliant and hardy character to be cultivated. The chief defects of the system were the neglect of the ancient languages, and—more grievous still—the want of definite religious instruction. But the faults of the system were largely compensated by Salzmann's noble and genial character, which "fell like light" on all around him. He furnishes an instance of the fact, too often forgotten by parents, that in education the character of the teacher is all-important. With the zeal of an enthusiast, Salzmann built a large school, and engaged a staff of teachers, before a single pupil was forthcoming. So by way of a beginning he proposed to Ritter's mother to adopt her favourite little Carl, then less than six years old, on condition that his education should be left entirely in his hands. The mother hesitated to make the hard surrender, but consented; and in company with a brother and a faithful tutor, the child was received at Schnepfenthal. It proved the very training congenial to his cast of mind. His love of nature feasted on the beauties of the place, and was quickened by outdoor exercise and scientific teaching. Above all, the artless, earnest, winning character of Salzmann called forth like dispositions in the kindred nature of his pupil.

After eleven fruitful and delightful years spent here, Mr. Hollweg, a great banker of Frankfurt, offered to maintain him for two years at the University of Halle, if he would then become tutor to his sons. He heartily accepted the offer, and that not as a temporary post, but as the "opening to a lifelong career as an educator"; for "his highest ambition was that his life might be as useful and powerful for good as was Salzmann's."

Passing by the diligent years he spent at Halle, let us pause over his Frankfurt life. Wealth and fashion ruled the ancient city, and the household where his lot was cast. And at once his artless nature shrank from the freezing influences of the showy artificial place. How could his wholesome plans, the self-denying training he believed in, be carried out in the case of children accustomed to every luxury? Mr. Hollweg, indeed, appreciated and sustained him from the first, but was absorbed in business; while his lady, indulgent and self-willed, constantly opposed the tutor's wishes. The eldest boy under his charge was only seven years old, and occasionally he had the oversight of still younger children. Much of the evenings he had reckoned on for study had to be renounced, for then the banker claimed his society. One can hardly imagine a more uncongenial position than this for the simple-hearted student, eager for self-improvement, and bent on imparting the hardy training he had himself received. And the fact that in spite of the wide divergencies between him and his employers, he maintained his post till his pupils became men, keeping true to his lofty, pure, austere ideal through years of luxurious city life, and gradually winning parents and pupils round to trust him and adopt his views,—constitutes, we think, a really wonderful example of much-enduring patience, of gentle yet prevailing constancy.

The earnestness and soul which he threw into the tuition of these young children were remarkable. Instead of considering the task beneath him, or regarding it as drudgery, he was so anxious to become in the truest sense an educator, that he valued the privilege "of beginning with the first steps, of having his patience long tried, and at every turn of finding unexpected difficulties." "When the long-expected supper with the family was over," he would "note down all the experiences of the day," the more fully to profit by their teaching. Writing of his childish pupil he said, "I have learned much from him." This was to educate indeed, and presents a worthy ideal to the thousands engaged in tuition. Ritter's great delight was in teaching natural history. For this he loved to escape with his pupils from the city to the Hollweg's country seat. "With my present position I am perfectly contented," he wrote when there, "because I am now a genuine child of Nature. . . . We pay attention to every foot of the road, have to be stoop-

"ing, jumping, running all the time, till the desired flower is secured. Then comes pleasure indescribable." "As the children grew older," our author says, "the more exposed were they to the peculiar temptations to which their father's immense wealth exposed them, and the more they were exposed, the more strongly did Ritter's pure soul yearn for them. He became the true mother to the children; for she who should have given them the advantage of precept and example, became not only more weak and nervous as she grew older, but also more worldly and frivolous."

By degrees his singular aptitude for teaching became known, not only in the city, but in distant parts; and from German dukes, from Vienna, and, more attractive than all, from Schnepfenthal, offers of employment flowed in upon him. But the Hollwegs had yielded more and more to his wishes, and he felt that by remaining with them he might permanently mould the characters of their children; and therefore, with unselfish fidelity, he refused every chance of preferment. The death of Mr. Hollweg, the steady supporter of his plans, he regarded as the signal for his departure. But it was not so; the mother had learned his worth at last, and begged him to remain; and regard for his pupils made it easy to persuade him. He wrote of them (p. 92):—"They are my pride and my joy. It would be impossible for me to leave them, for so finely and yet so peculiarly are they developing, that they answer completely to my ideal of what youth should; yes, they even surpass all that I could have anticipated. And I have not given this excellence to them; they owe it to nature—of that I am sure. All I have done has been to hinder them from receiving the impress of the time, and the evil conditions of their lives, and to guard them from superlative worldly wisdom, which they would have accepted as the best earthly good. And this I have tried to do—tried as if I was one of the cherubim standing with drawn sword at the gate of Paradise,—I no angel, indeed, but one of the fallen ones, bearing in my own self the ills from which I wished to guard them."

It was truly an angel-like endeavour thus patiently to withstand, in one of its great strongholds, the mean and mercenary spirit of worldly wisdom. But the brave, unsided teacher, resolutely loyal to simplicity and truth, succeeded in it, and impressed a noble form on the characters of his tempted pupils. He achieved it by the elevation of his nature and the force of his example, which acted like a purifying leaven around. Such leaven is needed wherever wealth and luxury bring their dangers. But teachers like Ritter are rarely to be found, and we fear that often they are not even sought.

But though contented to fill a lowly sphere, Ritter was fitted and destined to occupy a higher; and we must hastily trace the steps by which he rose to it. For several years of his life at Frankfort his studies were of the general sort, which would more thoroughly qualify him for tuition, for which he was so eager to be fully equipped, that he joined with his pupils a class at a public school, to repair his early neglect of the classical tongues. But when Humboldt returned from his American journey, and spent some days at Frankfort, Ritter made his acquaintance. He was charmed with the vast information and geographical ardour of the great traveller; and, already a keen student of nature, was incited to devote himself to physical geography. In the winter he prosecuted researches in libraries, and made the summer excursions he took with his pupils subserve his favourite study. He was soon moved to prepare a manual on the subject, which was then little known; and his conceptions grew as he laboured at his task. The grandeur and comprehensiveness of his leading ideas may be learned from the following passage of a letter:—

"The investigations which before I had applied only to Europe, I have now made universal, and have attained to a method of reading the past by means of the diffusion of plants, animals, and men, which carries me back further than do historical annals. I have become familiar with the manner in which the larger denizens of sea and land have accompanied the course of culture, and traced the connection which exists between the culture of grain and fruit and the settlements of man. The study of the diffusion of the cereals and of animals in their relation to human history has led me back to a time of great antiquity, and caused me to study the infancy of our race; and everywhere I have found the same laws, the same impulses to emigrate and settle afresh, to sail on the ocean, and till the land. I have found every mountain-pass used as a means of transit, every waterfall and every promontory the scene of human settlement—every physical feature, in a word, invested with historical significance. I believe that I can see in this basis of a science of physical geography which shall show that history has written its records in the language of external nature; that in the world around us exist the causes which have controlled the progress of the race."—P. 99.

These views were afterwards incorporated in his great work the "Erdkunde," in which his

aim was not merely "to collect and arrange a larger mass of materials than any predecessor," but to trace the general laws which underlie "all the diversity of nature."

Ritter left Frankfort when little over thirty, and after some years spent at Gottingen in elaborating his book, during which he declined many tempting offers, he accepted the Chair of History at the Frankfort Gymnasium; and a position being thus secured, he entered on a happy marriage. But the bustle and routine of a large school were not congenial to his studious habits, and soon he obeyed a call to Berlin, where the Government, anxious to employ his eminent geographical knowledge in the military schools, appointed him Professor of Military Statistics, coupling with it a Professorship of Geography at the University. Here he found his proper place, and continued for nearly forty years—from 1820 till his death in 1859—"indisputably one of the most attractive of all the German professors." He had the happy art of kindling the enthusiasm of others for the science he loved, and there needs no assurance that the qualities which had won for him such singular regard in a humble position, called forth the most reverent attachment from the students who crowded his classes.

But we must not enlarge on this, the longest and most important period of his life. The friendships he formed, the scientific excursions he made in every country of Europe, his lectures, his writings, we must pass by, adding only that though the religious training of his early years was deficient, he gradually became an earnest and eminent follower of Christ. We hope that by dwelling on the earlier and perhaps more instructive portion of his history, we shall induce many readers to study the whole of it, and so do something to spread the ennobling lessons it teaches.

The writer of the book, a reverent pupil of Ritter, has performed his task with great taste and feeling. He has told his story simply and briefly, so that none need be frightened at its length, and yet with sufficient fulness to give distinctness and individuality to the figure presented.

BRIEF NOTICES.

At Home in the Wilderness. By the WANDERER. (London: Hardwicke.) We have here a most good-tempered, useful, and amusing book. The number of persons to whom it can be practically of service, must necessarily be very limited; but it will command general attention for its good sense, a few excellent stories, and the plain but racy style in which it is written. Its aim and scope will best be gathered from the following extract from the preface:—

"Where and when to camp; how to equip and manage a train of pack-mules; break, gear, and saddle wild horses; cross streams, build log-rafts, trail a raft, dig out a canoe or build it with bark or hide, manage dog-sleighs, and tramp on snow-shoes; what to carry, and what to leave at home; or, to sum up in a few words, the way to get through a wild country as one ought, by adopting the better means of doing that which has to be done, are matters of no trifling value to travellers of all denominations. There are details that a novice cannot possibly acquire, save it be from the past experiences of other travellers, or, failing assistance such as this, he must learn his lessons in the field and forest by finding them out for himself, always a tedious, unsatisfactory, and very expensive process."

It is for the benefit of novices intending to adventure their lives and fortunes in the wilderness that this book is written. They could hardly have a more experienced and trustworthy guide. The author is Mr. John Keast Lord, F.L.S., formerly naturalist to the British North American Boundary Commission, and author of the "Naturalist in Vancouver Island and British Columbia." Mr. Lord's stories are too long for reproduction, which we regret, for there is a first-rate adventure with Indians, and a capital fight between a bear and bull. Our own memory ought by this time to be stocked with the most valuable information. As it is, we know how to make a chair out of an empty barrel; how to swim a horse over a river; how to line a bee; how to pack a mule, &c., &c. We have also learnt that leather is bad wearing in the wilderness; that rum-and-water is preferable to tea and coffee; that the inner bark of the willow scraped and dried is not a bad substitute for tobacco; that you should always choose a horse with a long tail, &c., &c. But as there is not the remotest chance that such information will be of the slightest service to the majority of our readers, any more than to ourselves, we forbear to add more; and refer the small minority of unquiet spirits who pine for change and adventure to Mr. Lord's own pages. We may also safely recommend the book to the general reader as one dealing with curious and out-of-the-way topics, and written in such a manner as to be interesting to everybody.

Hymns and Songs for the Christian Church, and Poems. By EMMA JANE WORBOISE. (London: James Clarke and Co., 13, Fleet-street.) The hymns in this little volume are characterised by great Christian tenderness, and a keen appreciation of the beautiful in Christian worship; and are, if we mistake not, the outpourings of a soul that has struggled much with the

evil within and around it. Some of the poems at the end of the volume are very beautiful, and rich in powers of expression and in imagination; we especially recommend "Matilda of Norway," and "The Ruined Abbey." Altogether, we consider the volume a very welcome addition to our store of pure and soul-strengthening poetry.

The Homilist. Conducted by DAVID THOMAS, D.D. Vol. VIII. Third Series. (London: W. Kent and Co.) This "nineteenth volume from the commencement" of the *Homilist* shows no failure of vigour or of devotedness on the part of the conductor. The *Homilist* is too well known to need that we should say more than this.

The Pulpit Analyst. Edited by JOSEPH PARKER, D.D. Volume I. (London: Jackson, Walford, and Hodder.) This volume follows very much in the track of the *Homilist*. It is marked by considerable power; but thoughtful readers are certain to be repelled by the affectations and obtrusive egotism of "the editor."

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Shipwrecks of Faith, three Sermons preached before the University of Cambridge by Archbishop Trench (Macmillan and Co.). *The Christian Teacher in Sunday-schools*, by the Rev. Robert Steel, M.A. (T. Nelson and Sons). *A Historical and Critical Commentary on the Old Testament, with a New Translation by M. M. Kallisch, M.A. (Longmans)*. *The St. Stephens' Chronicle*, Vol. III. (B. Bentley). *Brooks' Works*, Vol. V.; *Newton on the Seventeenth Chapter of St. John* (Nisbet and Co.). *Rowland on the Moral Commandments* (Longmans). *Light after Darkness*, Religious Poems, by Harriet B. Stowe (S. Low and Co.). *Symbols of Christendom* (Longmans). *Essays and Discourses*, by T. W. Towner (S. Stock).

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.—On Monday morning the National Rifle Association commenced its eighth annual campaign on Wimbledon-common, and under auspices of the most encouraging description. There will be seventeen regiments encamped instead of eight. The prizes will amount in value to 10,000*l.* Lord Spencer succeeds Lord Elcho as president of the association. The shooting on Monday proceeded without interruption until gun-fire. Some large scores are being made. The firing for the Queen's Prize begins on Wednesday.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST CHOLERA.—The Government are taking early precautions against any outbreak of cholera. A supplement to the *Gazette* was published last night, containing various Orders in Council as to quarantine, and the arrangements which are to be made by parochial authorities where any outbreak of cholera may take place. The orders are comprehensive, and appear to have been well considered.

Gleanings.

"The Last Chronicle of Barset," by Anthony Trollope, which has appeared as a serial, has just been completed.

"Q. O.," addressing the *Times*, warns tradespeople against refusing to receive, or making any charge for changing, Australian sovereigns.

Jefferson Davis's plantation, with that of his brothers, have been sold to a former slave of Jefferson Davis for 80,000*l.*, on a ten years' lease, and the coloured man, it is said, will make 16,000*l.* this year.

The relatives of the lady who gave Mr. Home, the spiritualist, 30,000*l.*, are about to file a bill in Chancery against him to recover the amount. The case will be a very interesting one.

The other day, in the French Exhibition, a mummy, several thousand years old, was unrolled before Napoleon III. and the Pasha of Egypt. After bands of wondrous length had been taken off, the head was laid bare. The features were well preserved, but entirely black. A strong balsamic odour escaped and filled the place.

The waiters in the City and West-end are asking for a redress of their grievances to prevent, as is alleged, a strike. They complain of the small salaries they receive for 12, 14, and 16 hours per day, and ask for 5*s.* per day.

THE RISE OF A NEGRO.—The Tennessee papers tell a story of the exploits of a negro who a short time since found a bag of gold in a hollow log. He converted his gold into five-twenties and had over 4,000 dollars. He went to New Orleans, worked in a barber's shop, studied evenings, acquired a good knowledge of English and French, and in March last went to Europe as the attendant of an ex-Confederate general, and now turns up as the proprietor of a first-class American restaurant in the Paris Exposition.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

MARRIAGES.

LAST-ARNOLD.—June 28, at the Independent chapel, Debenham, by the Rev. C. Talbot, Mr. George Last, to Fanny Wells, only daughter of Mr. Francis Arnold, Post-office, Debenham.

DEATH-HACKER.—June 19, at the Baptist chapel, Wattleham, by the Rev. John Cooper, Mr. James Death, of Ipswich, to Rachel, youngest daughter of Mr. William Hacker, of Bideford.

JACKSON-JACKSON.—June 29, at St. Paul's Independent Chapel, Wigan, by the Rev. W. Ross, Mr. Samuel Jackson, of Wigan, to Miss Alice Jackson, of Pemberton.

PRYCE-WARNE.—July 1, at the Registrar's office, Lambeth, Edward Smith Pryce, Esq., of Gravesend, to Ellen Mary Wyatt, widow of the late Joseph Warne, Esq., Fairacres, Oxford. No cards.

SMITH-GREAR.—July 1, at Mount Zion Chapel, Sheffield, by the Rev. R. Stainton, Mr. John Smith, to Elizabeth, third daughter of Mr. John Grear, both of Sheffield.

LOCKE-JIMMONS.—July 2, at the Congregational church, Ross, by the Rev. Dr. Davies, Mr. John Bird Locke, to Miss Jimmons, both of Ross.

BOWLES-KELL.—July 2, at the Congregational church, Ross, by the Rev. Dr. Davies, in the presence of the Regie-

trav. Charles Edward Bowles, Esq., of Swindon, to Eliza, eldest daughter of T. Kell, Esq., Brook House, Ross.

WHITE-BATON.—July 2, at the new Congregational church, Christchurch, by the Rev. J. Woodcock, Mr. Sergeant White, of the Hants Constabulary, to Miss E. Eaton, of Christchurch.

WILSON-BEYNOLDS.—June 2, at Union Chapel, Islington, by the Rev. Henry Allen, Leonard Wilson, of Goswell-road, to Mary Elizabeth, only surviving daughter of the late George Reynolds, of Islington.

ELLIS-WILSON.—July 2, at the United Methodist Free Church, Sheffield, by the Rev. J. Adcock, the Rev. L. E. Ellis, Primitive Methodist minister, Barnsley, to Emma Glover, eldest daughter of Mr. Wilson, Sheffield.

BOYD-THOMPSON.—July 2, at Choriton-road Congregational Church, by the Rev. William Boyd, of Milnathort, brother of the bridegroom, and the Rev. J. Macfadyen, M.A., James, fourth son of Robert Boyd, Esq., Glasgow, to Sarah Ellen, youngest daughter of the late James Thompson, Esq., Langley House, Whalley Range, Manchester.

SHIPLEY-HALL.—July 2, at the Baptist chapel, King-street, Oldham, by the Rev. Philip F. Rowe, Mr. Isalah Shipley, to Mary Ann, daughter of Mr. Joseph Hall, both of Oldham.

THOMAS-WUTTER.—July 2, at Clapton Chapel, by the Rev. A. Barrett, Charles James, son of J. Thomas, Esq., of Shaftesbury House, Hackney, to Mary Matilda, daughter of J. W. Wutter, Esq., of Amburst-road, Hackney.

WILLS-HAMILTON.—July 2, at Regent-square Presbyterian Church, by the Rev. W. K. E. Milroy, Frederick, son of H. O. Wills, Esq., of Cotham Park, Bristol, to Annie, daughter of the Rev. J. Hamilton, D.D.

ORRISON-CHATSURN.—July 4, at Rusholme-road, chapel, Manchester, by the Rev. Alexander Thomson, M.A., William Wright, third son of William Orrison, Esq., of Ashton-upon-Mersey, to Ann Sherwin, only surviving child of the late James Chatsurn, Esq., of Manchester.

DUDDRIDGE-DOUGLAS.—July 4, at Philip-street Baptist Chapel, Redditch, by the Rev. W. Lasker, Mr. Henry J. Dudridge, to Hannah Maria, daughter of Mr. J. Conch, Redditch-hill. This being the first marriage solemnised in the above place of worship, the respected pastor presented the bride with a handsome Bible.

SCOTCHBROOK-WADE.—July 4, at the Caledonian-road Chapel, by the Rev. Ebenezer Davies, Mr. Henry Scotchbrook, Islington, to Charlotte, eldest daughter of Mr. David Wade, Suffolk, Lincolnshire.

DEATHS.

ROBERTSON.—June 27, James Robertson, Esq., of Worcester, aged forty-nine, son of William Robertson, Esq., of Bradford House, Solihull, Warwickshire.

MALCOLM.—June 27, James Malcolm, of Hall, aged sixty-eight years.

RUT.—June 28, at Horse Bay, William Rut, Esq., after a week's illness, having just completed his eightieth year.

HEWILL.—July 2, aged seventy-two, Ellen, wife of Mr. J. Hewill, of Heuben-street, Leeds, and mother of the Rev. W. Hewill, M.A., Congregational minister, Farnworth, Lancashire.

GIBBS.—July 2, aged seventy-three, the Rev. Richard Gibbs, minister of the Independent chapel, Skipton, Yorkshire, where he had been settled thirty-three years.

KING.—July 4, at his residence, West Tower, Norwich-road, Ipswich, in his sixty-second year, John King, Esq., proprietor of the Suffolk Chronicle.

REED.—July 4, at her residence in St. Leonard's-on-Sea, in her seventy-fourth year, Elizabeth, widow of the late Rev. Andrew Reed, D.D., of Hackney. Friends are requested to accept this announcement.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

City, Tuesday Evening.

The payment of the dividends, which commenced to-day, has glutted the Money Market with money; and the best bills can now be readily negotiated at 2 percent. Consols have risen a point during the week, and stand now at 94½ to 94½ ex. div., and for the August account at 94½ to 94½.

The last Bank of England return exhibits an increase in the notes in circulation of 1,148,950l.; the notes in circulation amounting now to 24,383,860l.; the coin and bullion amounts to 22,495,855l., being an increase of 209,171l. The reserve of notes shows a decrease of 808,630l.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 37, for the week ending Wednesday, July 3.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	436,442,570	Government Debt	411,015,104
Other Securities	2,881,500	Gold Coin & Bullion	31,448,570
	436,442,570		436,442,570

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	14,568,000	Government Securities	3,180,806
Reserve (inc. dead weight annuity)	212,830,778	Other Securities	30,456,251
Public Deposits	9,354,737	Notes	12,088,710
Other Deposits	18,568,211	Gold & Silver Coin	1,058,285
Day and other bills	470,216		
	446,429,019		446,429,019

July 4, 1867. FRANK MAY, Deputy Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Lumbago, derangements of the kidneys, rheumatism, tic-doloureux, all excruciating pains of the muscles and nerves, are relieved with astonishing rapidity by the use of this extraordinary Ointment. The affected parts, previously fomented with warm water, have only to be briskly rubbed with this soothing unguent to obtain instant cure. Whilst the Ointment cures the local ailment, the Pills remove the constitutional disturbance and regulate every impaired function of every organ throughout the human body. The cure is neither temporary nor superficial, but permanent and complete, and the diseases rarely recur, so perfect has been the purification performed by these searching yet harmless preparations.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, July 3.

There was a very short supply of English wheat to this morning's market, and quotations remain nominally the same as this day's market. Under the influence of fine weather the trade was slow for foreign, and the sales were in retail at late quotations. Barley for feeding purposes rather dearer. Beans and peas unaltered. The supplies of oats are large, and includes several large cargoes from Russian and Swedish ports. This checked any improvement in value, but at the

rates of this day week we experienced a fair steady sale for all descriptions.

CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—	Per Qr.	Per Qr.	FRAB—	Per Qr.	Per Qr.
Remex and Kent	57 to 67		Grey	37 to 39	
red, old	57 to 67		Maple	39 to 42	
White, old	58 to 71		White	40 to 44	
new	58 to 67		Boilers	40 to 44	
Foreign red	55 to 65		Foreign, white	39 to 43	
white	57 to 72				
BARLEY—			RYE	32 to 34	
English malting	39 to 50				
Chevalier	50 to 56		OATS—		
Distilling	40 to 45		English feed	23 to 30	
Foreign	30 to 44		potatoes	23 to 25	
MALT—			Scotch feed	24 to 31	
Pale	71 to 78		potatoes	29 to 35	
Chevalier	73 to 80		Irish black	21 to 24	
Brown	58 to 65		white	23 to 30	
BEANS—			Foreign feed	21 to 27	
Ticks	41 to 44				
Harrow	41 to 44		FLOUR—		
Small	43 to 48		Town made	51 to 57	
Egyptian	—		Country Marks	43 to 45	
			Norfolk & Suffolk	43 to 45	

BREAD.—LONDON, Saturday, July 6.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 9½d. to 10d.; household ditto, 7½d. to 9d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET.

MONDAY, July 2.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 10,343 head. In the corresponding week in 1866 we received 11,754; in 1865, 17,053; in 1864, 10,360; in 1863, 14,133; in 1862, 7,977; in 1861, 10,082; and in 1860, 12,239 head. The supply of foreign beasts on sale here to-day was an average one. All breeds moved off heavily, at depressed quotations. There was an increased arrival of beasts fresh up from our own grazing districts, and for the most part in excellent condition. The supply from Scotland was limited. The demand for even the finest breeds was heavy, at a decline in the quotations compared with Monday last of quite 2d. per 8 lbs. Some very good beasts were received from Lincolnshire. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, were received about 800 cota, shorthorns, and crosses; and from Lincolnshire and other parts of England, 1,250 of various breeds; and from Scotland, 110 Scots and crosses. Notwithstanding that the supply of sheep was only moderate for the time of year, all breeds moved off heavily, and the quotations gave way 2d. per 8 lbs. The best old Downs and half breeds sold at 5s. to 5s. 3d. per lb. Lamb were in good supply and steady request, at full prices, viz. from 5s. 8d. to 6s. 6d. per 8 lbs. The demand for calves was inactive, yet the quotations were supported. The top figure was 5s. 6d. per 8 lbs. Prime small pigs realised previous rates, but large hogs were very dull. The supply was tolerably good.

Per 8 lbs. to sink the Offal.

Inf. coarse beasts	2	d	a	d																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
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**CHARLES PIZZALA,
CARVER, GILDER, AND LOOKING-GLASS
MANUFACTURER,
19, Hatton-garden, Holborn, E.C.**

GILT CHIMNEY AND CONSOLE GLASSES.
GILT CONSOLE TABLES AND CABINETS.
GILT WINDSOR CORNICES AND GIRANDOLES.
PICTURE AND OIL PAINTING FRAMES IN EVERY
STYLE, &c., &c.

REGILDING IN THE BEST MANNER AT LOWEST
PRICES.
ESTIMATES FORWARDED BY POST.

SEWING MACHINES.

W. F. THOMAS & CO.'S
New Patent Machine, No. 2 G (Lock Stitch),
For TAILORS, BOOT MAKERS, and others,
LARGE SIZE, £8 : 8s. COMPLETE,
1 and 2, CHEAPSIDE, and
67, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD, LONDON.

ATKINSON and Co.
Beg to announce to the Nobility, Gentry, Clergy, and
the general Public, that they have enlarged their premises,
and completed Extensive Alterations for the better display of
their Stock of

DRAWING-ROOM FURNITURE
With the utmost confidence they now invite attention to
their perfectly unique and elegant designs, en suite, up-
holstered in

**REP, TERRY CLOTHS, FRENCH and SILK
DAMASKS, &c.**

A Large Stock of
**MARQUETERIE, CABINETS, OVAL and LOO TABLES,
DAVENPORTS, and WHATNOTS,**
With the Latest Parisian Novelties.

GOOD SOLID DINING-ROOM SETS
In Oak and Mahogany
BRASS and IRON BEDSTEADS
In great variety and from very low prices.
THE NEW PATENT SPRING MATTRESS
Still stands alone for Cheapness and Comfort.

The whole of
THE BEDDING
Is made on the Premises and under Personal Inspection.

Their famous
POLISHED PINE BED-ROOM SUITES
Demand Special Attention.

Extras from the Builder :—
"We were shown a short time since a bedroom fitted up by
an Earl for his own occasional occupation at the sea-side, in
which every piece of furniture, save the iron bedstead, was
made of the white wood in question. Dressing table, wash-
stand, drawers, towel rails, and chairs, were as spotless as the
crests of the waves beating on the shore, and the very height
of cleanliness seemed attained."

The Stock of
CARPETS
Is one of the choicest in London, embracing Turkey, Velvet
Pile, Brussels, Kidder, Felt, &c.

**FLOORCLOTH, KAMPTULION, LINOLEUM, AND
CORK CARPET**

Cut, Fitted, and Laid Down to any size and plan,
FURNISHING DRAPERY.

For more than a quarter of a century ATKINSON and Co.
have rigidly adhered to the plan of keeping only the goods
supplied by the best manufacturers, and hence they offer a
market second to none in the kingdom for the supply of every
description of

BED and TABLE LINEN.
Large Consumers, Clubs, Hotels, &c., are met on the most
liberal terms.

**DAMASK, REP, and PEKIN CLOTHS, FRENCH and
ENGLISH CHINTZES and ORTONNES,**
With the most beautiful and reasonable assortment of
MUSLIN, LACE, and LENO CURTAINS

**ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUES FREE ON
APPLICATION.**

*. The Goods corresponding to the List are marked in
plain figures.

ATKINSON and Co.
128, 300, 202, 304, 206, 308, 210, and 212,
WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, LONDON.

**DRESSMAKING.—LADIES' MORNING
and EVENING DRESSES** of every description made
and trimmed in the latest fashion.

WEDDING DRESSES to order.
MANTLES, JACKETS, and CLOAKS in the newest style.
COMPLIMENTARY and FAMILY MOURNING on the
shortest notice.

Mrs LAKE has now resumed business, and, having
assistants of first-class talent, is prepared to execute orders
from all parts of London and suburbs, punctually, on the
shortest possible notice. Terms moderate.

Orders per post promptly attended to.
12, Spencer-road, Stoke Newington-green, N.

18s. per doz.—TARRAGONES—per doz. 18s.

BOTTLES AND CASES INCLUDED.
Post Orders on Vere-street.

**CHARLES WARD AND SON,
WINE MERCHANTS.**

MAYFAIR, W., LONDON.

18s. per doz.—TARRAGONES—per doz. 18s.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY.
DUBLIN EXHIBITION, 1865.

This celebrated old IRISH WHISKY gained the Dublin
Prize Medal. It is pure, mild, mellow, delicious, and very
wholesome.

Sold in bottles 3s. 8d. each, at the retail houses in Lon-
don; by the agents in the principal towns in England; or
wholesale at 5, Great Windmill-street, London, W.

Observe the red seal, pink label, and cork, branded "Kin-
ahan's LL Whisky."

BRANDY, BRANDY, give us BRANDY,
Oh! the Ladies say 'tis good!

And a certain CURE for CHOLERA, spasmodic symptoms,
and internal complaints when unadulterated; but how seldom
to be met with in its pure state unless from the direct
importers, O DEVEREUX and Co., 26, East India Chambers,
Leadenhall-street, London, at 18s. and for "premiere
qualite," 40s. per doz., either pale or brown, bottles and cases
included. Forwarded same day against Post-office Order or
remittance.

**T. T. T.—HOUSEHOLD TEA COMPANY,
THE CHEAPEST HOUSE IN LONDON.**
Supply Private Families and Hotels with the BEST TEAS.
GOOD STRONG CONGOU TEA only 2s. per lb. Sent to
any part of the kingdom for Post-office order for the value.
153, Cannon-street, near London-bridge and the South-
Eastern Railway Station in Cannon-street.
CLARANCE and CO., Managers.

**T. T. T.—HOUSEHOLD TEA COMPANY,
153, Cannon-street, City.**
Their fine STRONG CONGOU, at 2s. 6d. per lb., is a
superior Household Tea for general use.
CLARANCE and CO., Managers.

**T. T. T.—HOUSEHOLD TEA COMPANY,
153, Cannon-street, City.**
Recommend their fine-flavoured CONGOU TEA, at 2s., for
its superior qualities.
CLARANCE and CO., Managers.

**T. T. T.—HOUSEHOLD TEA COMPANY,
153, Cannon-street, City.**
THE CHEAPEST HOUSE IN LONDON.
GOOD and FINE TEAS Sold in CHESTS of 9 lbs., and
HALF-CHESTS of 4 lbs., at 1 1/4d. per lb. less than the prices
quoted above, and sent off by railway to any part of the
kingdom.
CLARANCE and CO., Managers.
14, Billiter-street, E.C.

**FRANKS, SON, & COMPANY,
WHOLESALE TEA DEALERS,
40, QUEEN-STREET, CANNON-STREET WEST, E.C.**
"STANDARD TEAS"
(STRONGLY RECOMMENDED)

Composed of a choice selection of teas to combine strength
and flavour.

No. 1 Black, at 2s. 10d. No. 1 Mixed, Green and Black,
" 2 Black, at 2s. 2d. " 2 ditto, at 2s. 10d.
" 3 ditto, at 2s. 2d.

Supplied in 5 lb. and 12 lb. Cansisters. The prices include
Cansisters and Carriage paid. Small Tasting Samples sup-
plied gratuitously carriage paid. TERMS—Cash.

"THE RUIN OF THE FEW IS THE GAIN OF THE
MANY."

**THE Panic of '66 and its consequent depres-
sion of the Colonial Markets enables the "EAST INDIA
TEA COMPANY" to offer TEAS LOWER THAN EVER.**
Six Pounds of Good Tea for 6s. 6d. can't be dear.
The Company's KALISOWS by the Clipper Ships are really
delicious.

9, Great St. Helen's Churchyard, Bishopsgate-street. Jan. 1,
1867.

**SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRINS'
WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.**

This delicious Condiment, pronounced by Connoisseurs
"THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE."

Is prepared solely by LEA and PERRINS.

The Public are respectfully cautioned against worthless imita-
tions, and should see that LEA and PERRINS' Name are on
Wrapper, Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.
. Sold Wholesale and for Export, by the Proprietors,
Worcester; Messrs. CROSS and BLACKWELL; Messrs. Barclay
and Sons, London, &c., &c., and by Grocers and Oilmen
universally.

**CAPTAIN WHITE'S ORIENTAL
PICKLE,**

CURRY or MULLIGATAWNY PASTE.

Curry Powder, and Curry Sauce, may be obtained from all
Sauce Vendors, and wholesale of

CROSSE and BLACKWALL, Purveyors to the Queen,
Bishopsgate, London.

ALMOND FLAVOUR.
PRESTON'S ESSENCE of BITTER
ALMONDS FREE from PRUSSIC ACID. This
delicious Essence may be safely used for flavouring Custards,
Blancmanges, &c., and all kinds of Pastry.

Sold Retail by Chemists, Grocers, &c., in bottles 1s. and
1s. 6d. each. Wholesale, PRESTON and SONS, 88, Leaden-
hall-street, E.C.

BORWICK'S BAKING POWDER.
Recommended by the Lancet and the Queen's Private
Baker for making pure digestive bread without yeast.

BORWICK'S BAKING POWDER
was also recommended by the Queen's Private Baker
and by the late Sir Wm. Burnett, Director-General of the
Medical Department of the Navy.

BORWICK'S BAKING POWDER
makes delicious hot digestive tea-cakes in a few
minutes, and Norfolk dumplings better than yeast.

BORWICK'S BAKING POWDER
makes bread without fermentation, and preserves the
nutritious properties which yeast destroys.

BORWICK'S BAKING POWDER
saves eggs and butter in making puddings and pastry,
and prevents indigestion.

BORWICK'S BAKING POWDER
was used in the Arctic Expeditions, also by the armies
in the Crimea and China.

SOLD everywhere in 1d., 2d., 4d., and 6d.
packets, and in patent boxes, 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., and 6s.
each.

BORWICK'S FURNITURE CREAM
cleanses and gives the most brilliant and durable polish
to all articles of furniture, with very little labour.

BORWICK'S FURNITURE CREAM
sold in bottles, 6d. and 1s. each, nearly twice the
usual size.

Manufactory, 24, Chiswell-street, London.

CLEAR COMPLEXIONS
for all who use the "United Service" Soap Tablet, which
also imparts a delicious fragrance.

MANUFACTURED BY
J. C. & J. FIELD, Patentes of the Self-fitting Candles.

Sold by Chemists, Oil and Italian Warehousemen and Others.
. Use no other. See name on each tablet.

STARCH MANUFACTURERS
TO H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.
GLENFIELD
STARCH.
Used in the Royal Laundry, and awarded the Prize Medal, 1862.

FELIX SULTANA'S OIL of BAGDAD is
celebrated in all parts of the world for restoring and
beautifying the hair. Under its invigorating influence gray
hair soon assumes its original colour, and weak hair becomes
abundant and beautiful. 1s. 6d. per bottle; free for 24 stamps.

**FELIX SULTANA and CO., Royal Perfumers, 23, Poultry,
London. West-end Agents, Wheeler and Co., 210, Regent-
street.**

**BEAUTIFUL HAIR.—CHURCHER'S
TOILET CREAM** maintains its superiority for impart-
ing richness, softness, and fragrance to the Hair, as well as
being a most economical article. Price 1s., 1s. 6d., and 6s.
Hatchelor's Instantaneous Columbian Hair Dye is the best ex-
tant. Black or Brown, 4s. 6d., 7s., and 14s. per packet. Sold
by Hairdressers Wholesale, R. HOVENDEEN and SONS
No. 5, Great Marlborough-street, W.; and 98 and 99, City-
road, E.C. N.B.—Wholesale warehouse for all Hairdressers
goods.

HAIR DYE! HAIR DYE! HAIR DYE!
GILLINGWATER'S ATRAPILATORY is the best
Hair Dye in England. Gray, red, or rusty hair dyed instantly
to a beautiful and natural brown or black without the least
injury to hair or skin, and the ill effects of bad dyes remedied.
Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers of repute, and by the Pro-
prietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free
to any railway station in the kingdom, in cases, 6s. 6d., 6s. 6d.,
and 10s. 6d. each. Beware of Counterfeits.

HAIR DESTROYER for removing super-
fluous hair on the face, neck, and arms. This great dis-
figurement to female beauty is effectually removed by this
article, which is easily applied, and certain in effect. In boxes,
with directions for use, 1s. 6d. each. Sent free to any railway
station, and may be had of Perfumers and Chemists, and of
the proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road.
Beware of Counterfeits.

**BALDNESS PREVENTED.—GILLING-
WATER'S QUININE POMADE** prepared with can-
tharides restores the hair in all cases of sudden caldness, or
bald patches where no visible signs of roots exist, and prevents
the hair falling off. In bottles 2s. 6d. and 6s. 6d. each. May
be had of all Chemists and Perfumers, and of the proprietor,
W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to and
railway stations. Beware of Counterfeits.

DR. ROBERTS'S POOR MAN'S FRIEND
and **PILULE ANTISCORPHULE** have been proved,
by sixty years' experience, successful in the cure of eruptions
and wounds of every description. Sold wholesale by the Pro-
prietors, Beach and Barnsfoot, at their Dispensary, Brompton,
and by the London houses; and retail by all respectable
medicine vendors in the United Kingdom and the Colonies, in
pots and boxes, 1s. 1 1/2d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 22s. each.

DINNEFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA.—
The best remedy for ACIDITY OF THE STOMACH,
HEARTBURN, HEADACHE, GOUT, and INDIGES-
TION; and the best mild aperient for delicate constitutions
especially adapted for LADIES, CHILDREN, and INFANTS.
DINNEFORD and CO.,
172, New Bond-street, London, and of all Chemists.

KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS,
THE BEST REMEDY FOR ASTHMA.
Sold by all Chemists, &c., at 1s. 1 1/2d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d.
per Box.

KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS.
THE BEST REMEDY FOR COUGHS and COLDS.
Sold by all Chemists, &c., at 1s. 1 1/2d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d.
per Box.

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The Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the members of this society was held at Radley's Hotel, New Bridge-street, on Wednesday evening, JOHN GOVER, Esq., Chairman of the Board, presiding.

The SECRETARY (Mr. John Edward Tredder), read the advertisement convening the meeting, and the report of the directors, and statements of accounts.

The CHAIRMAN, in rising to move the adoption of the report, said the last year had been the best which the society had ever had. (Loud cheers.) The capital of the society was now nearly a quarter of a million, and it required no small amount of care to keep this sum in profitable use—it was no small thing in these days to employ a capital of a quarter of a million successfully and prosperously. (Hear, hear.) The society worked most vigorously and most energetically—every department of it was well looked after; nobody was allowed to slumber, and nobody was allowed to forestall them in any one thing. (Cheers.) If anything was started by the public press, or if any new principle was added to the building societies, they at once readily took up the suggestion, and if it was worthy to be adopted, they adopted it; and if it was not, they rejected it. (Cheers.) They were determined to keep pace with the times, as by the adoption of that course they must always maintain their position. (Cheers.) During the past year they had entered upon new offices, and this had put the society to some expense. In the new premises they had a capital fire-proof room, of good dimensions; the deeds were arranged round the room like a library, and if they required a particular deed, it was forthcoming in a single moment. (Hear, hear.) Besides this, the room was entirely fire-proof. It was true, it had been an expensive affair; but they could not have good things without they paid for them. Every member would understand that, having the custody of these deeds, they were bound to take care of them. It would be a serious thing if any of these were permitted to get damp, or were destroyed; and all the world might know that they had a new strong-room, capable of holding two or three wagon-load of these deeds,—perhaps they had not more than one or two wagon-loads at present—(Hear, hear),—and entirely fire-proof. (Cheers.) The report called attention to the fact that they had made purchases of freehold building land. He had had a great deal to do with the recommendation of that course of action, and he believed in doing as they had done there, had done an exceedingly prudent thing. (Cheers.) They had made a far better investment than if they had let this money remain in 3 per cent. In the first place, they had bought a freehold estate at East Dulwich, a capital estate, an extensive estate, and one that he felt sure would be exceedingly remunerative to the society. (Cheers.) Some of the sites were very fine, and the public had already taken to building. The society was willing to advance money to persons desirous to build with the view of encouraging building operations. Then the other estate was at Sutton; it was a good neighbourhood, and houses of a very superior class were springing up. He had no doubt that the 3 per cent. money, turned into building operations, would be very remunerative, and would prove a great benefit to the society. If persons chose to build, the society would assist them by advances to the extent of nine-tenths of the purchase money of the land. This investment spoke well for the energy of the directors. The directors looked ahead—this three per cent. would not do—they must do better with capital than that. It was too low an interest, and, therefore, they looked about to find a better investment, and they decided to purchase freehold estates, to make ground rents for the society, and to sell to the public. (Cheers.) That course had already been adopted with comparative success, and it would ultimately be a great success, and the members would reap the benefit. (Loud cheers.) He thought in this investment they would see the prudence of the directors, and they might look forward to great results.

A MEMBER asked what was the acreage of the estates?

The CHAIRMAN said their freehold estate at East Dulwich was about 21 acres, and the other, at Sutton, about 14 or 15 acres. He concluded by moving the adoption of the report.

Mr. HUDSON seconded the resolution.

Mr. CAYE was quite satisfied with the progress made by the society. He, however, wanted to know how it was that the £500 received from the railway company had not been mentioned in the accounts. He was not quite satisfied that so much money should have been lost in selling out their consols to purchase the estates.

The CHAIRMAN, in reference to the last point, stated that it had been a long time resolved to sell out of the Funds, and the broker was instructed to sell out at a certain price, which could not be realised. A year after the stipulated selling price was reduced, and since then two years had passed away, so that the directors felt it was now advisable to sell out, as the loss sustained would be soon recouped out of these estates. Half of the loss was charged to the profits of the year and the rest to the reserve fund.

The SECRETARY explained that the £500 spoken of would be found accounted for in the sum of £567 mentioned in the balance-sheet.

The motion was carried, and Messrs. John Gover, Joseph Burgess, and J. K. Burton, retiring directors, were re-elected.

Mr. BURGESS returned thanks for the election, and alluded to this being the sixth time he had been chosen to occupy his present position. This re-election proved the confidence of the shareholders in himself and his brother directors. He referred to the policy being a wise one of paying the directors a reasonable and proper remuneration.

Mr. BEAL was re-elected auditor, and he then stated that he and his colleague had submitted the accounts to a severe scrutiny, and the result had been that it was with great satisfaction he affixed his signature to the balance-sheet. He, however, pointed out that auditors had nothing to do with outlay being judicious or legitimate, but only to see that every item was carried to the proper account.

Dr. EVANS moved a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors for their efficient services during the past year, and spoke of the bad policy of giving the directors inadequate remuneration for their services, and also of the very satisfactory condition of the society. The purchase of freehold land was one of the wisest steps that had ever been taken.

Mr. MARSH seconded the resolution, which was carried, and The CHAIRMAN responded for himself and brother directors, pointing out that each brought to bear the experience of his life on the business of the society.

Mr. PATT spoke in high commendation of the services rendered by the secretary and the staff, and moved a vote of thanks to them. The cost of the staff and management expenses was very small, being only 2 per cent., and he thought everyone should be satisfied with 4½ per cent. interest and a bonus of 6 per cent. The report was a *bond fide* one, and no item in it could be called in question.

Dr. EVANS seconded the motion, and agreed with the commendatory remarks of the last speaker. He also pointed out that the cost of management was a greater charge in the case of many banks than it was in this society.

Mr. MILLAR supported the motion.

Mr. KING suggested that the meeting should vote a gratuity to the staff, but it was agreed to leave this to the directors.

The CHAIRMAN had great pleasure in putting the motion, which was carried.

The SECRETARY (Mr. Tredder) spoke on behalf of himself and the staff, and said this was the sixteenth time he had had the pleasure of speaking on similar occasions, but never with more pleasure than now. There was not an item in the balance-sheet about which he could not challenge investigation. He alluded to the magnitude of the society's operations, no less than 1,700,000 of having been dealt with by it. He also alluded to the same bonus being paid this year as the last four years (6 per cent.), but 1,780 now receive it against 1,705 then, and whilst in 1864 £2,958 paid the bonus, it now wanted £4,608. He concluded by affirming that every department of the society was in good working order.

The meeting then terminated.

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